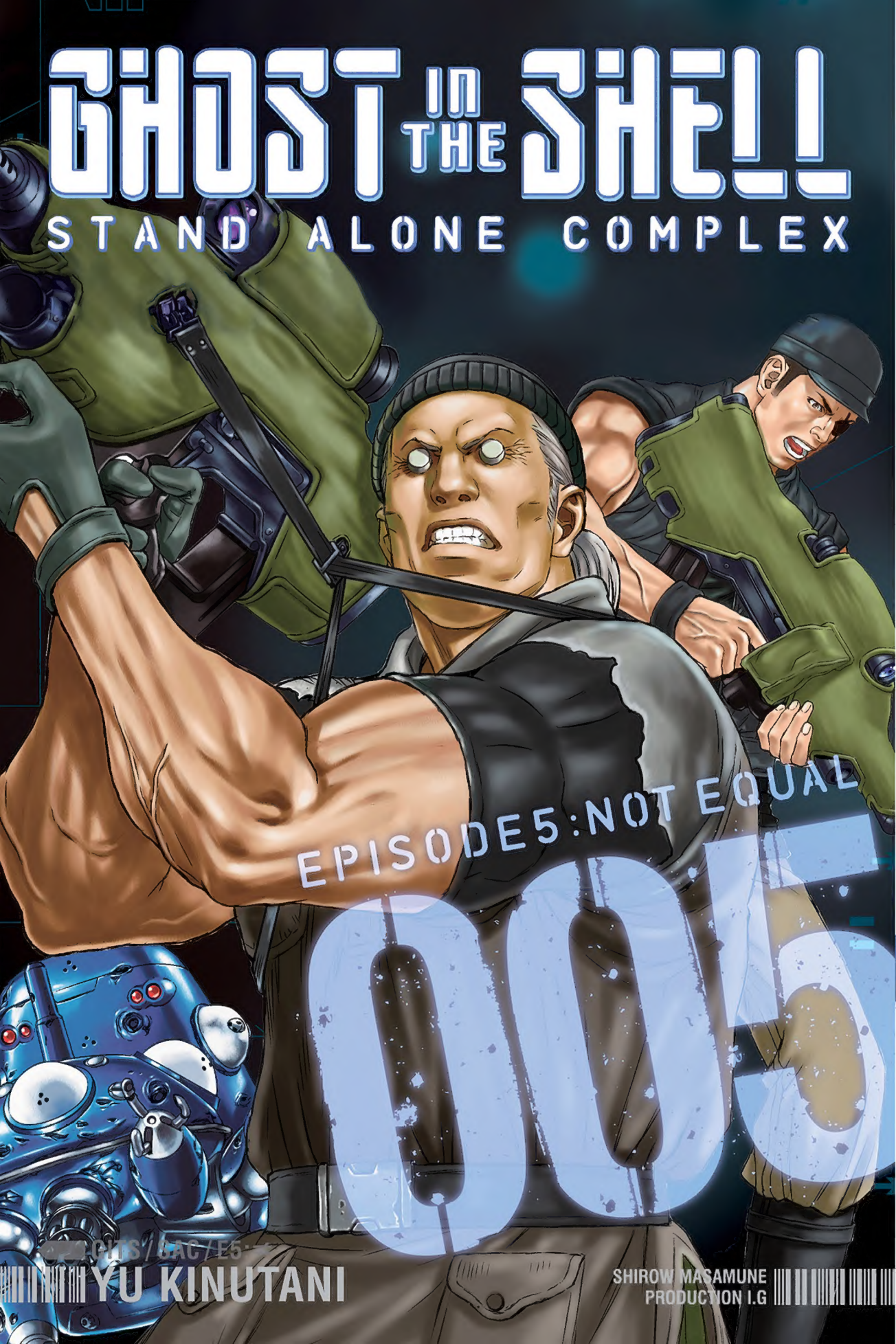
GHOST IN THE SHELL
STAND ALONE COMPLEX
EPISODE5:NOT EQUAL
005
YU KINUTANI
SHIROW MASAMUNE
PRODUCTION I.G

GHOST IN THE SHELL
STAND ALONE COMPLEX
EPISODE NOT EQUAL

005

攻殻機動隊
STAND ALONE COMPLEX

衣谷遊

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PRODUCTION I.G
KODANSHA

EPISODE5:NOT EQUAL

05

攻殻機動隊 STAND ALONE COMPLEX

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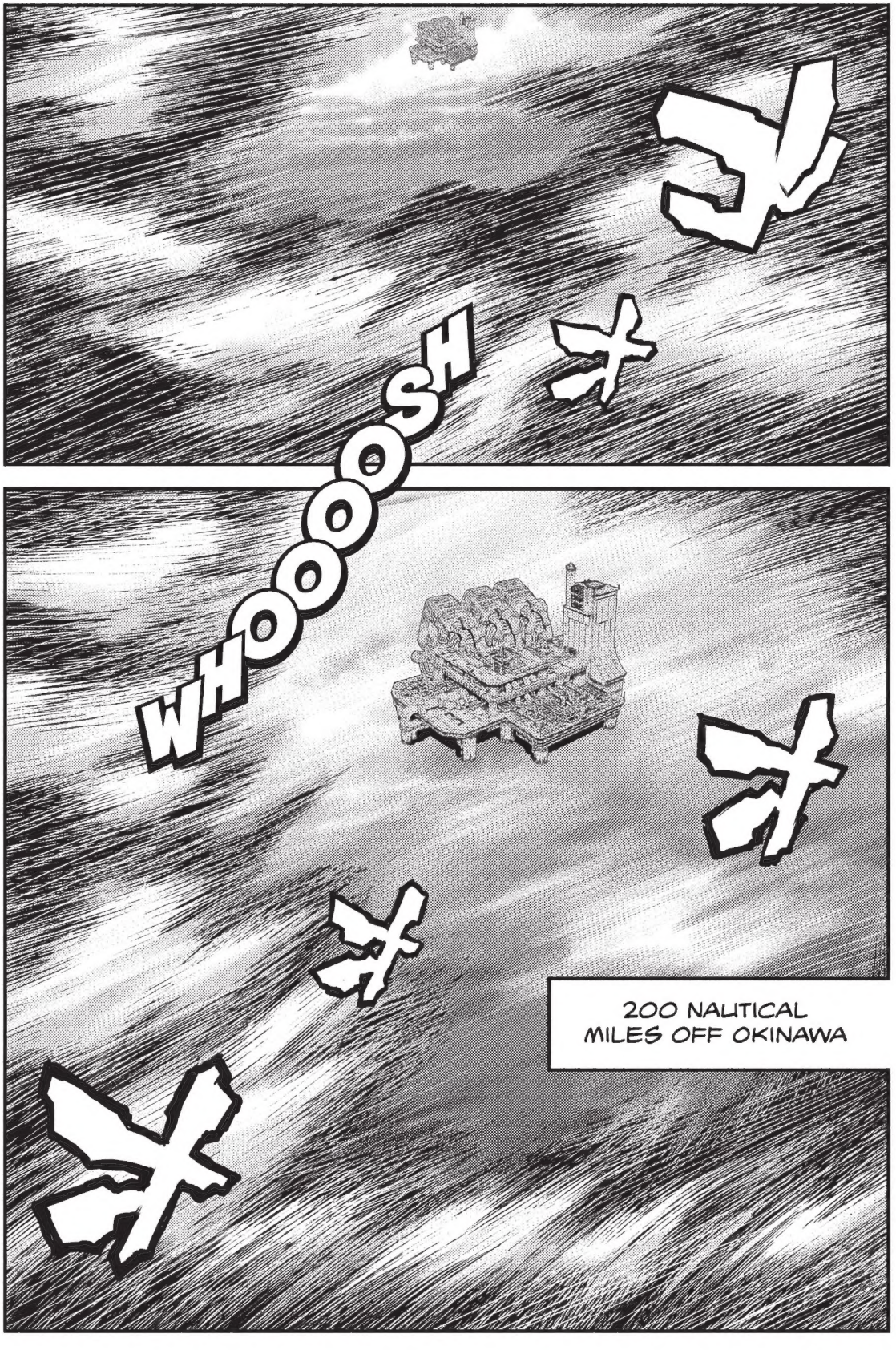
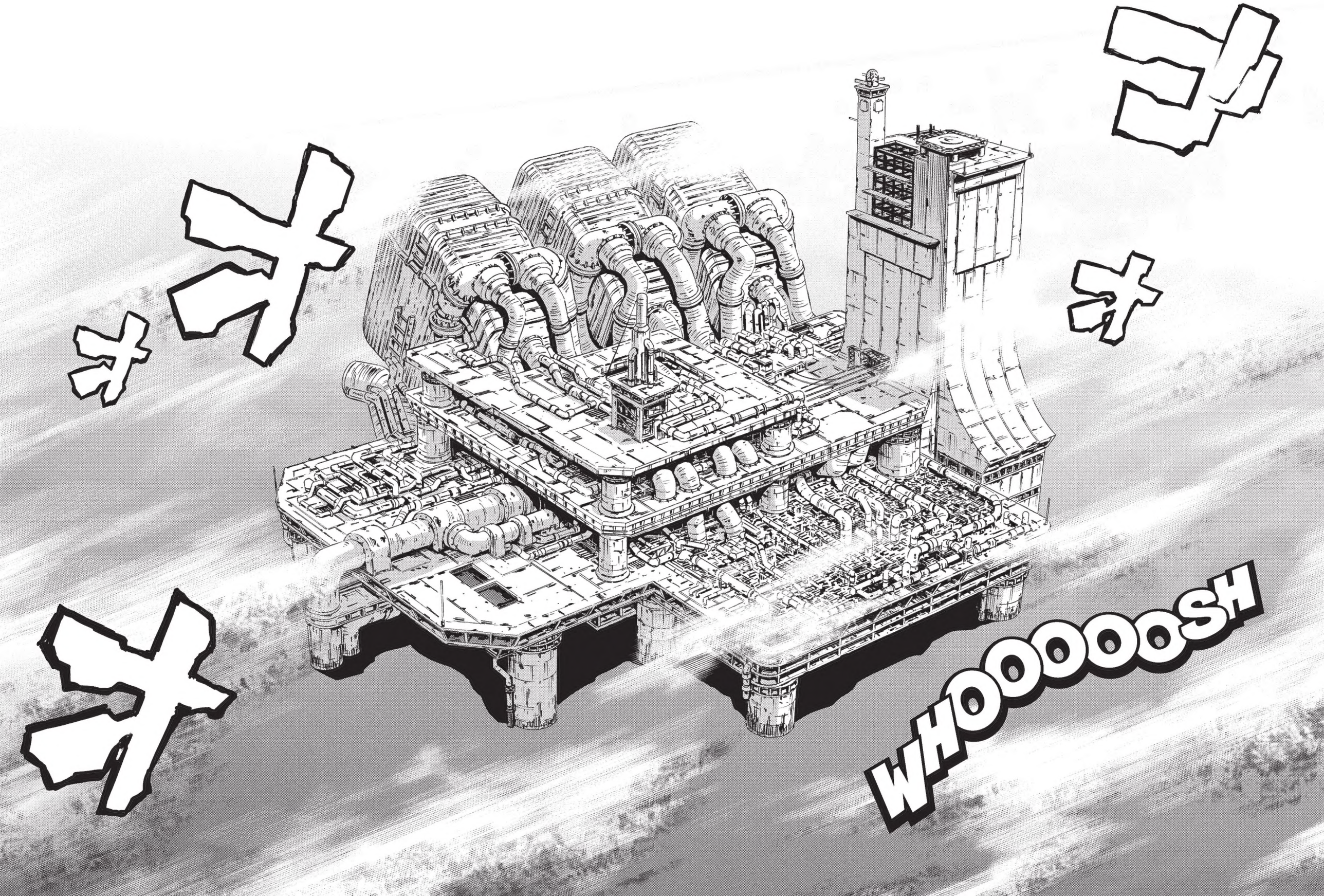
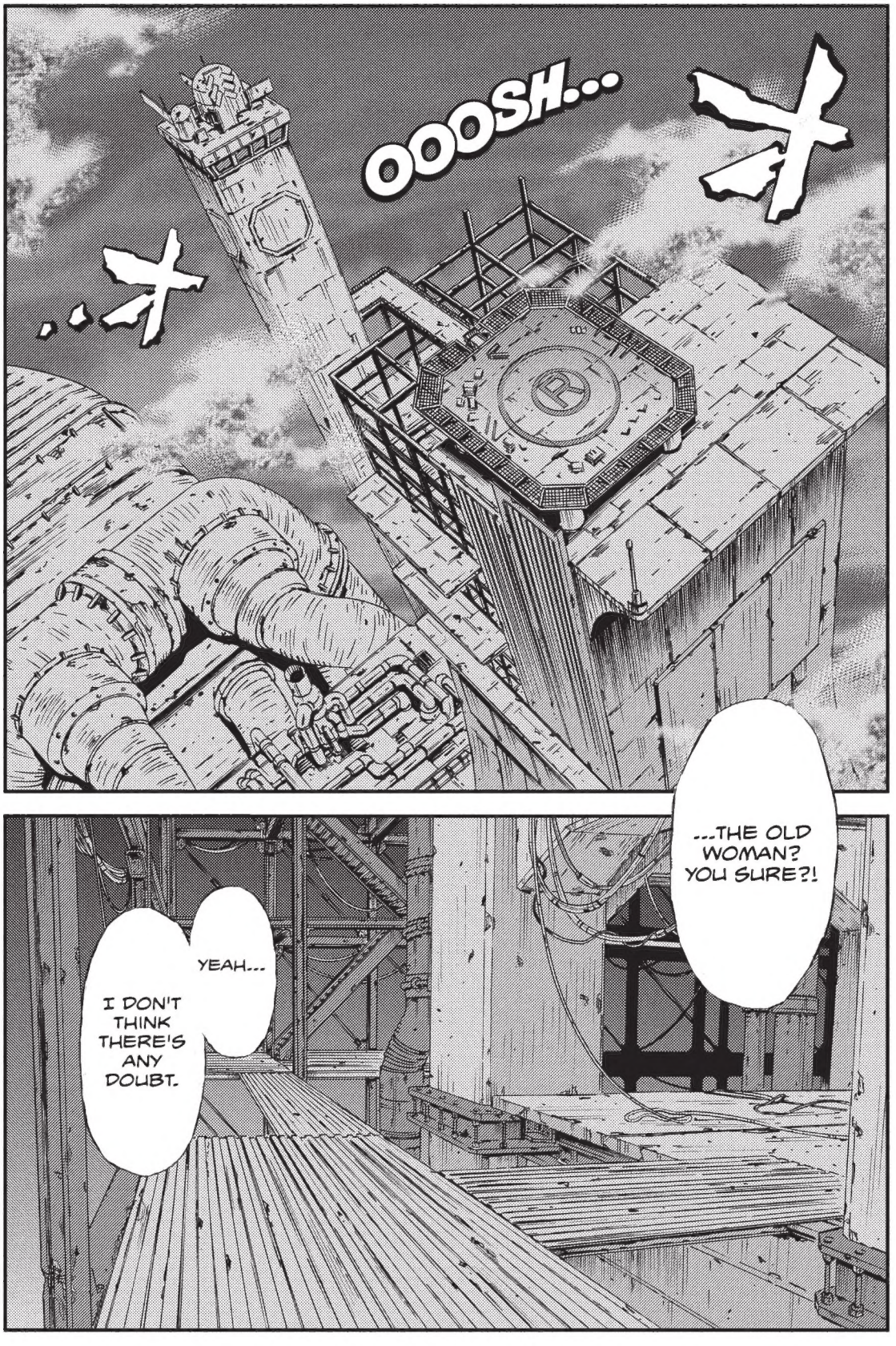
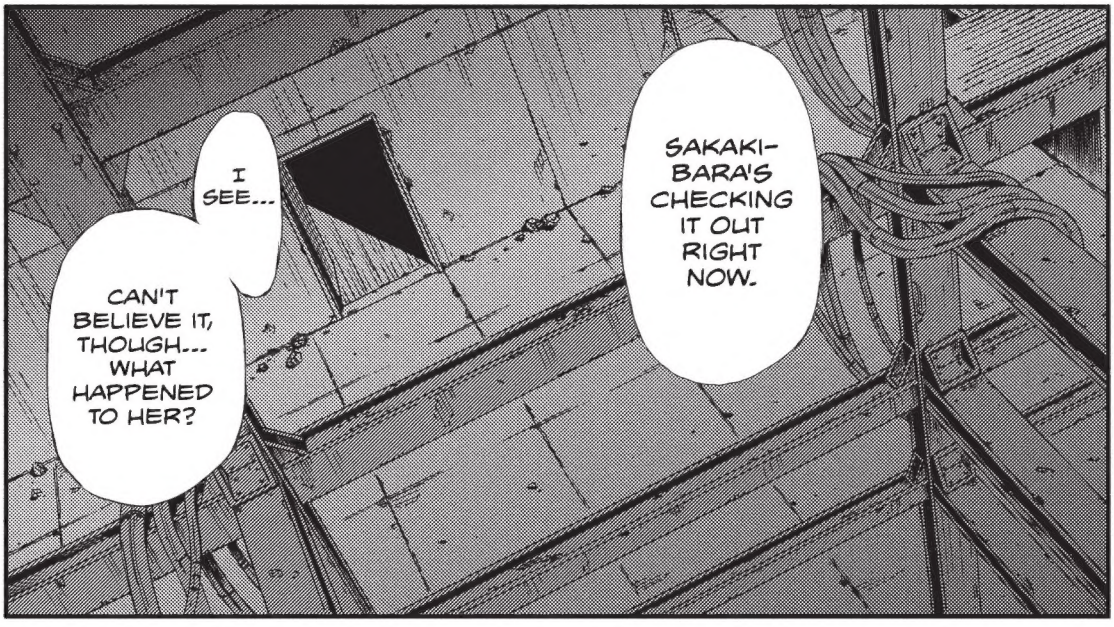
CONTENS

#033	The Immortal Girl	005
#034	Infiltration	039
#035	State of Derangement	075
#036	The Brigade's Threat	095
#037	Eka Tokura	127
#038	All-Out Offensive	161
#039	Immortal Soldiers	185
#040	Absolute Resistance	209
#041	The Girl's Identity	235
#042	Atrocious Memories	255


WHOOOOOSH
200 NAUTICAL MILES OFF OKINAWA

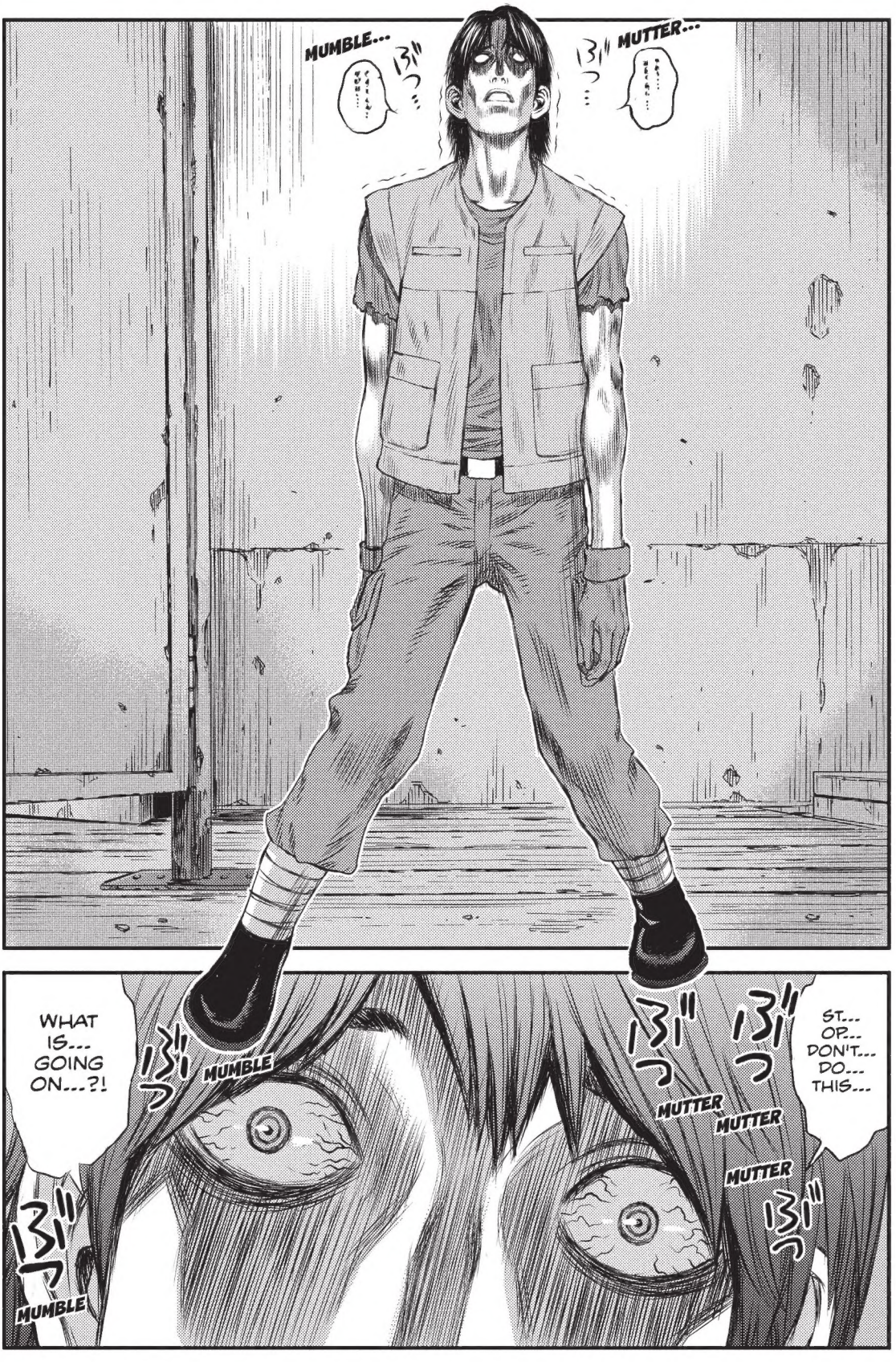

WHOOOOOOSH


OOOSH...
...THE OLD WOMAN? YOU SURE?!
YEAH...
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY DOUBT.


SAKAKI-BARA'S CHECKING IT OUT RIGHT NOW.
I SEE...
CAN'T BELIEVE IT, THOUGH... WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

NO IDEA...
CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE...
TAP TAP

DID THE DATA GET...
...BACK TO MSA HQ?
I GAVE THE OLD JUNKER PLENTY OF CASH BACK IN THAT BLACK MARKET TO PASS IT ON.
IT'S FINE.
THEY'LL BE ANALYZING IT AS WE SPEAK!
TAP TAP...
THAT'S IT...?
YOU'RE GOING TO BASE IT ON THAT?
WHY NOT?
WAIT!!
CHK
!
SAKAKI-BARA...?
ZSH!


MUMBLE...
MUTTER...
WHAT IS... GOING ON...?!
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
ST... OP... DON'T... DO... THIS...
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUMBLE

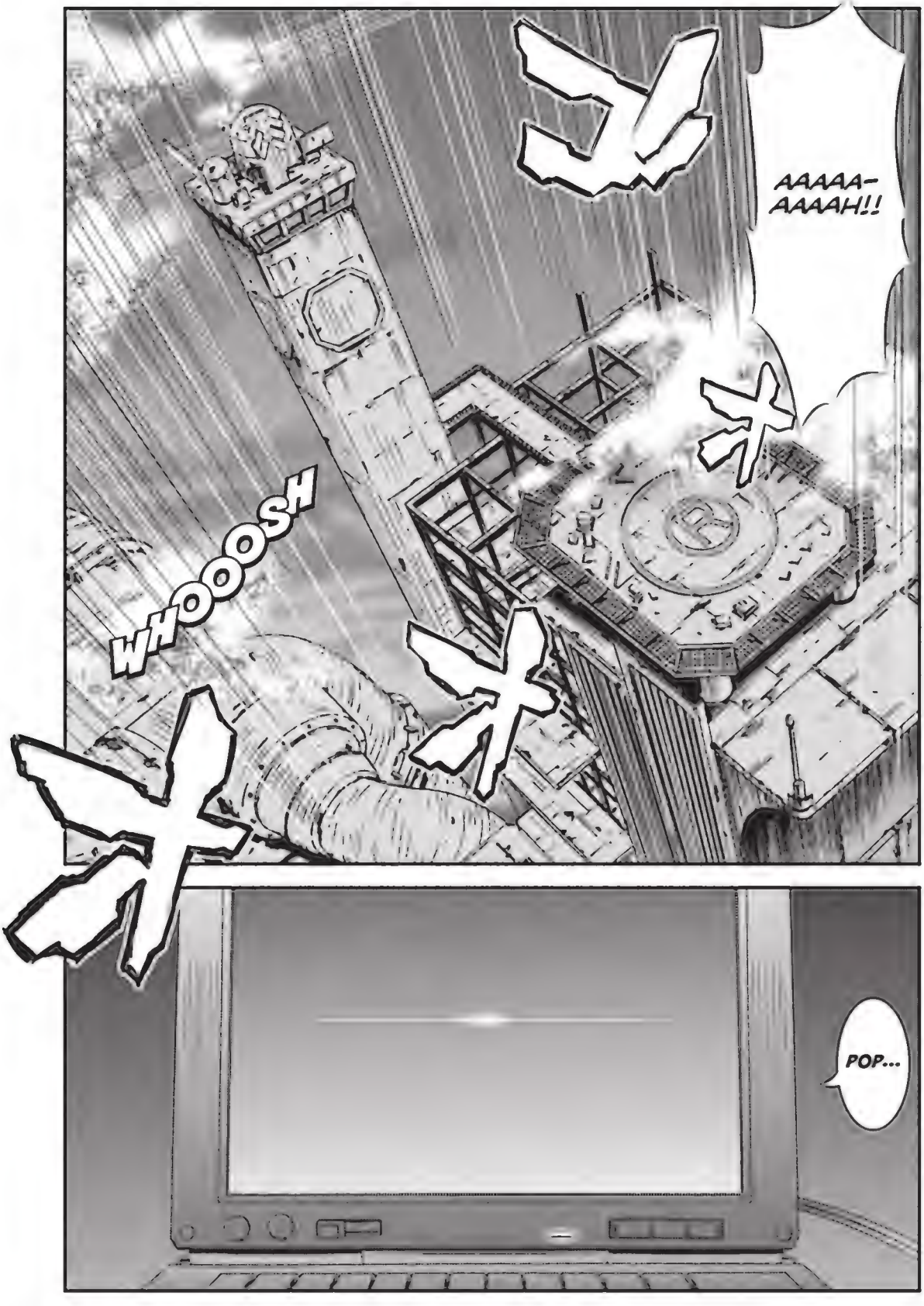
JUST... STOP...
PLEASE...

WHAT HAPP-ENED?!
THUD
SAKAKI-BARA?!

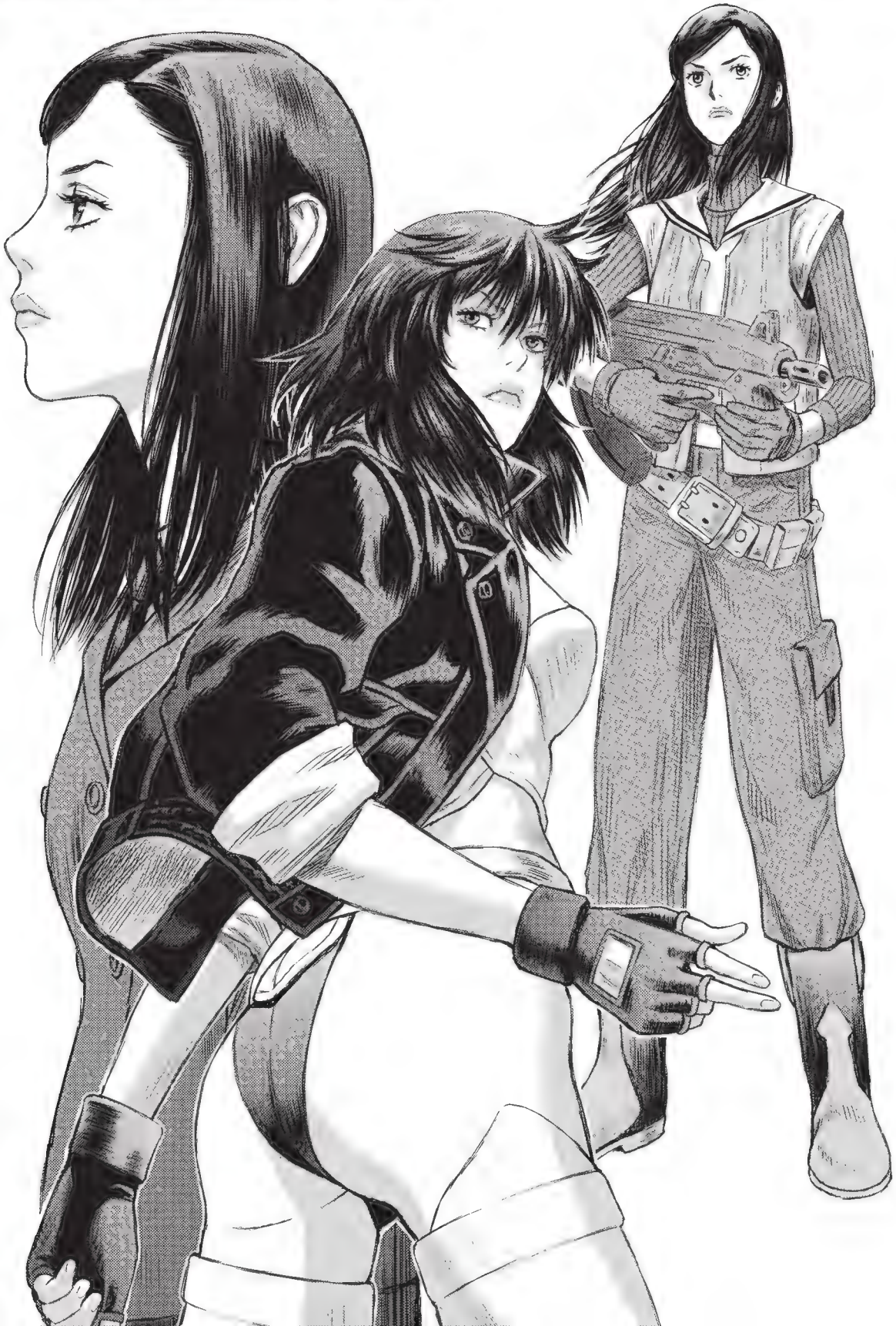
NOOOO-OOOO!!
WH-WHAT THE HELL'S WRONG WITH HIM?!
NOOOO!!
I HAVE NO IDEA!
THWUMP

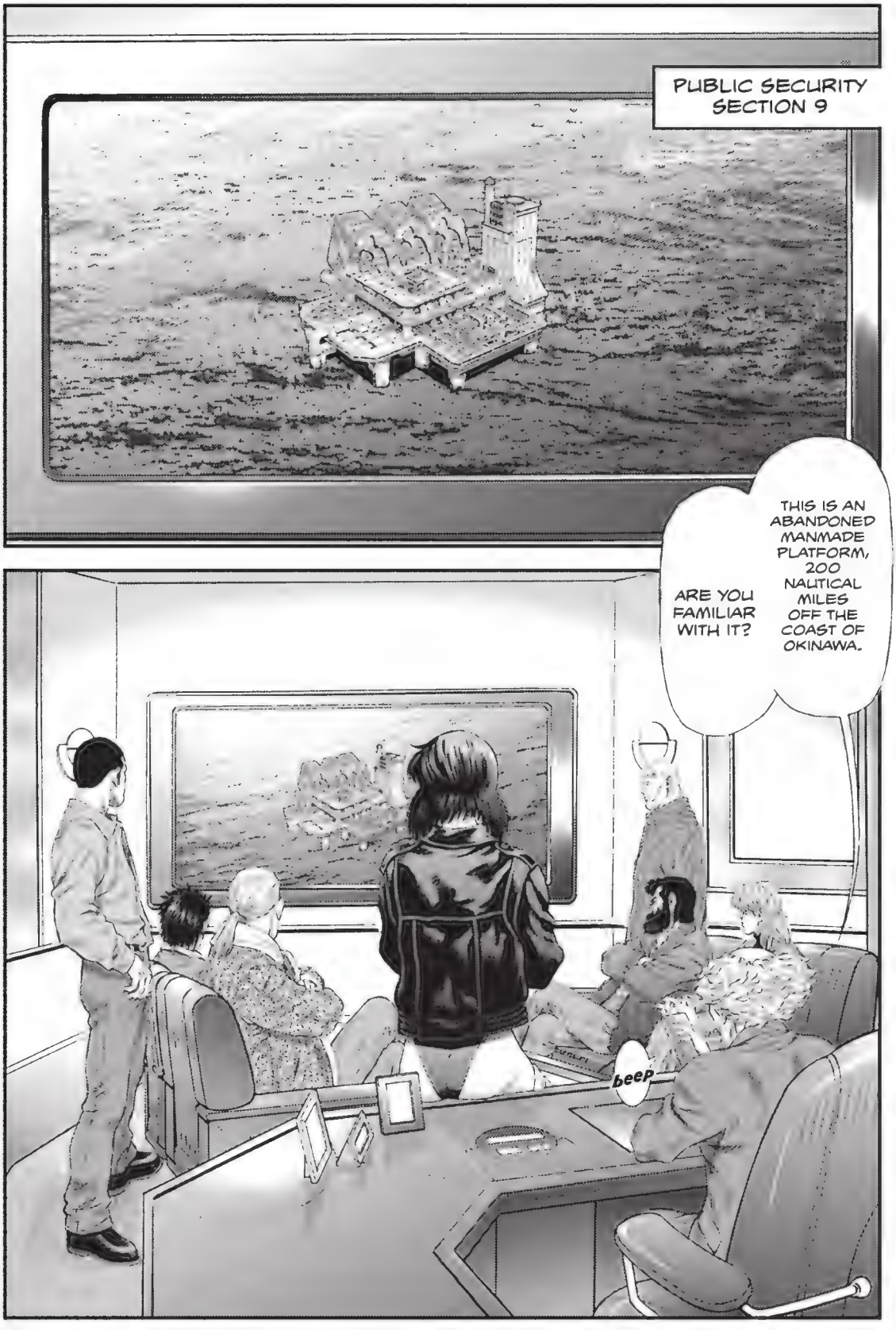
HA HA... HE WENT TOO FAR DOWN THE RABBITHOLE AND CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HELL...
ZZZKK
WHAT?
BUT IT SERVED HIM RIGHT...
AAH... AAHH...
!
I-IS IT HER...?!
YOU CAN EITHER BREAK DOWN, AS HE HAS...
WAIT! THAT VOICE--!
NOW YOU ARE LEFT WITH ONLY TWO OPTIONS...

WAS SHE...
...THE LEADER OF THE BRIGADE?!
...OR DIE!!
ZZT...
OHHHH
ZZZT...
AAH... AAAH...
WHAT... WHAT IS THAT CREEPY IMAGE?!

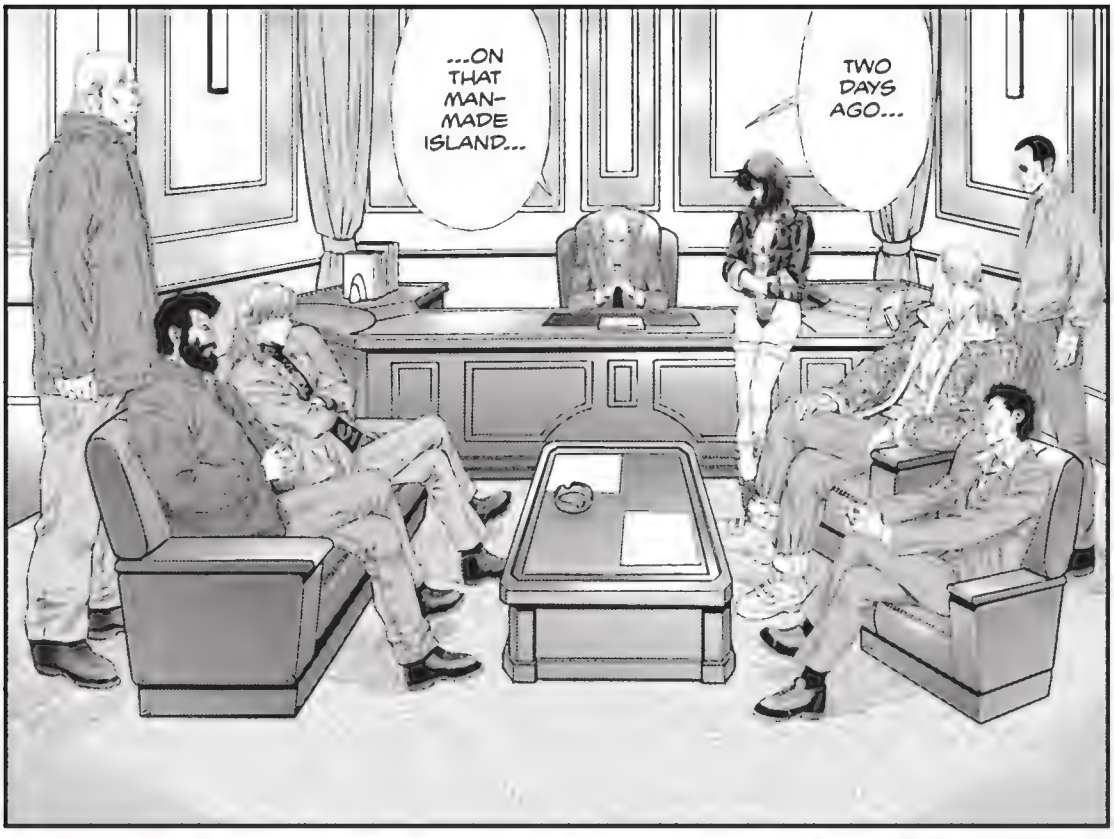

AAAAA-
AAAAH!!
WHOOOOSH
POP...

#033: The Immortal Girl




PUBLIC SECURITY SECTION 9
THIS IS AN ABANDONED MANMADE PLATFORM, 200 NAUTICAL MILES OFF THE COAST OF OKINAWA.
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH IT?
beep

THAT'S RIGHT.
I BELIEVE IT WAS ABAND-ONED ABOUT A DECADE AGO.
THAT'S THE RADIO-ACTIVITY-SCRUBB-ING PLANT THAT GOT SCRAPPED.
AND NOW IT'S JUST A DEN OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITY...
AFTER THAT, IT WAS SWARMED BY CRIMINALS...
...SO IT'S A LOCALIZED BASE FOR SMUGGLING NOW.
IT'S OUTSIDE OF THE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY'S REACH...


...ON THAT MAN-MADE ISLAND...
TWO DAYS AGO...

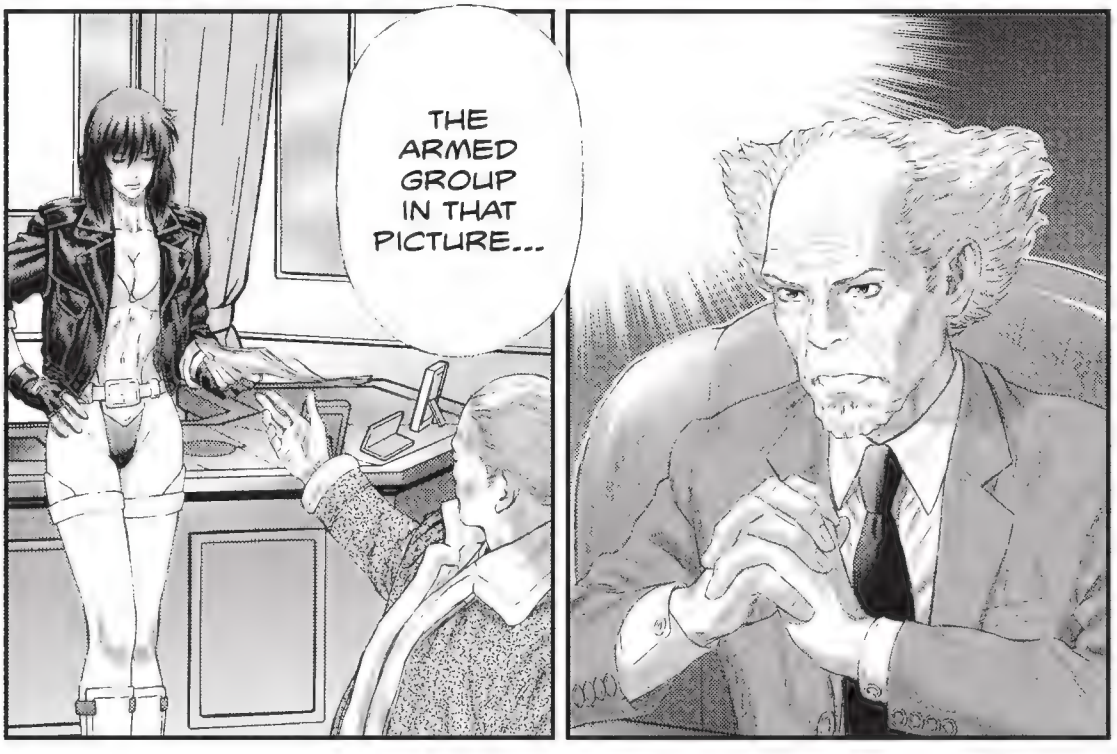
...AND THEY'VE VANISHED!
THE MSA'S ELITE SECURITY TEAM, THE SST, SENT FOUR MEN IN...

!!
THE SST?!
HUH...?
BUT THE SST...
...IS THE BEST OF THE MSA'S BEST, WITH ELITE TRAINING AND FULL RIOT GEAR.
THEY'RE NOT THE KIND OF TROOPS TO GET DONE IN BY COMMON THUGS!!

THIS IS THE LAST IMAGE THEY SENT BACK...
FSHH
...THERE'S NO MISTAKE. WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH THEM.
I'M AFRAID TO ADMIT...
FLAP
TAKE A LOOK.

SHH...

FLAP


THE ARMED GROUP IN THAT PICTURE...

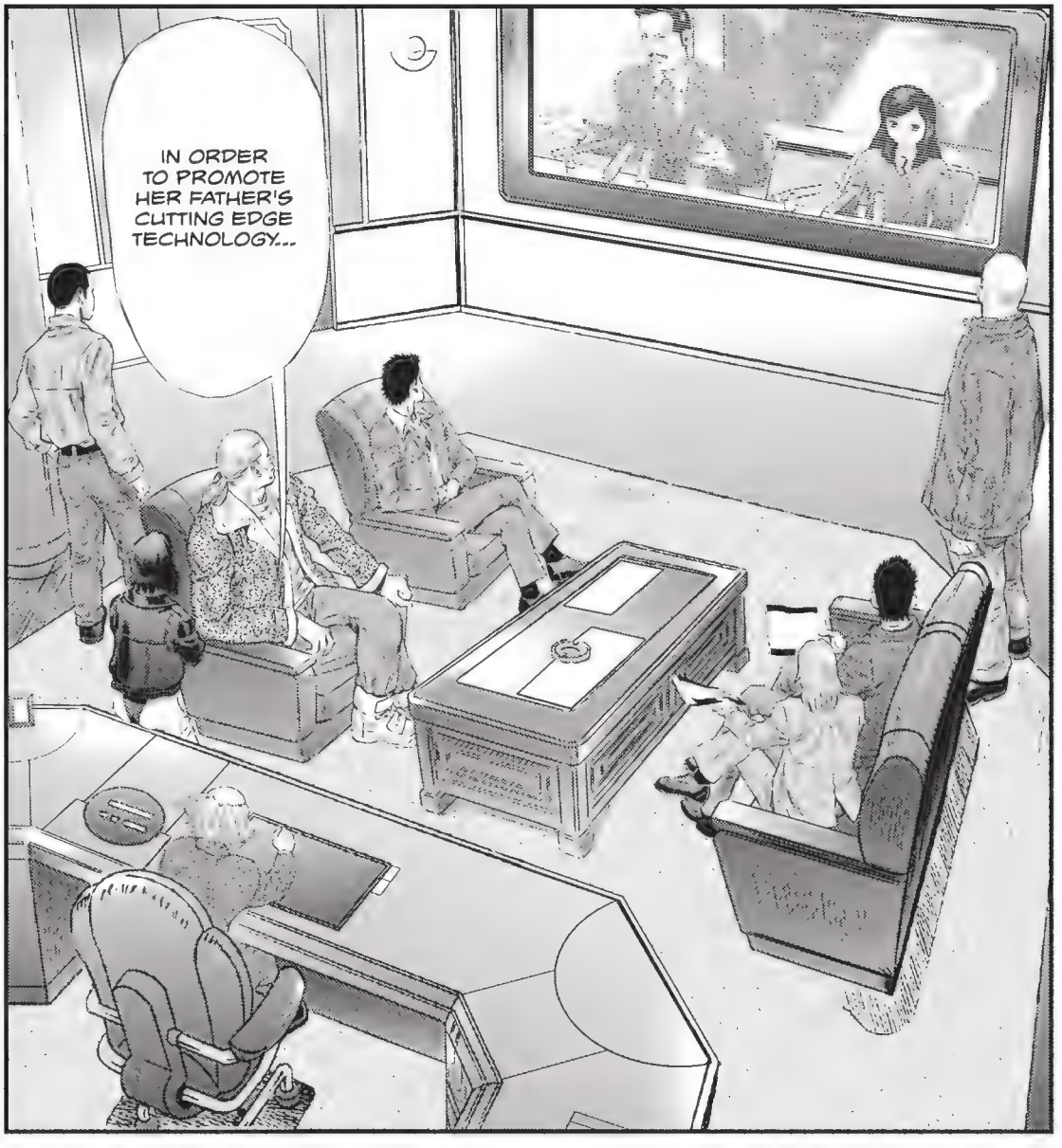
OH, RIGHT...
NEW WORLD BRI-GADE...?
...ARE TERROR-ISTS KNOWN AS THE "NEW WORLD BRIGADE"!
IF I RECALL CORRECT-LY...
BIG FUNDA-MENTALIST CROWD. REAL EXTREM-ISTS.
YEAH...
THEY REFUSE TO DABBLE IN ANY KIND OF AUGMEN-TATION.
THEY'RE STAUNCHLY ANTI-PROS-THETICS AND ANTI-CYBER-NETICS.
...THEY'RE FLESH-SUPREMA-CISTS, AN OFF-SHOOT OF THE "HUMANITY LIBERATION FRONT."

THEY'RE THE WORST KIND: THE ONES WHO WILL STOP AT NOTHING...
AND THEY USE THE MOST EXTREME METHODS POSSIBLE, KNOWING IT'LL GET THEM PLENTY OF MEDIA ATTENTION.
THE MSA RECEIVED A REPORT THAT THE BRIGADE HAD LANDED ON THE PLANT, SO THEY SENT A FOUR-MAN SST RECON TEAM FIRST.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY'S SST WAS INVESTI-GATING THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE.
MEAN-ING...
JUST AFTER THEY SENT IN THESE PHOTOS...
AND WHILE IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR MISSION, THEY LOST CONTACT WITH THE ENTIRE TEAM.
FLAP

---?
THIS GIRL...
!!
FLAP
カサ...
IS SHE THE ONE... FROM TOKURA ELEC-TRONICS?!
INDEED.

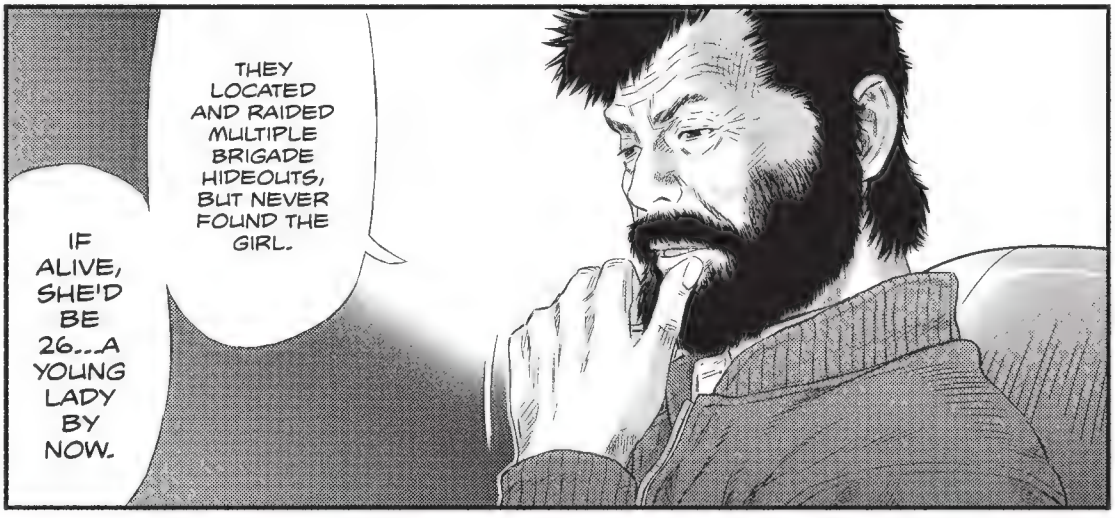
...THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE PRESIDENT OF TOKURA ELECTRONICS WAS ABDUCTED BY THE BRIGADE...
16 YEARS AGO...
EKA TOKURA.
SHE WAS ONLY TEN YEARS OLD.
...WHEN MORE PEOPLE HAD RESER-VATIONS ABOUT GOING CYBER-NETIC.
BIP
THAT WAS BACK...

FLIK

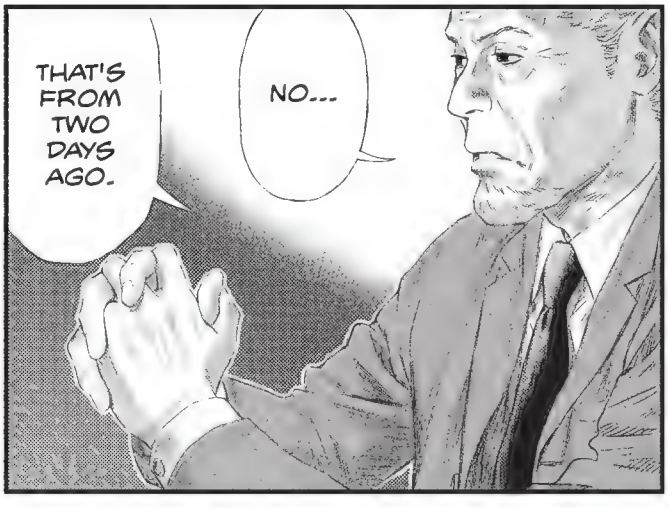

IN ORDER TO PROMOTE HER FATHER'S CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY...

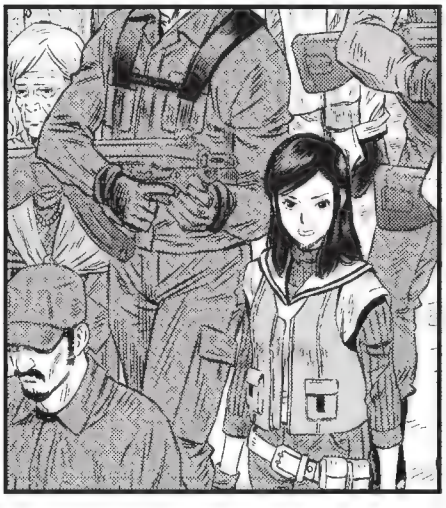
swish
...EKA GOT ONE OF HIS IMPLANTS FOR HERSELF.
CORRECT.
BUT IN THE END, THAT GOT HER ABDUCTED BY THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...

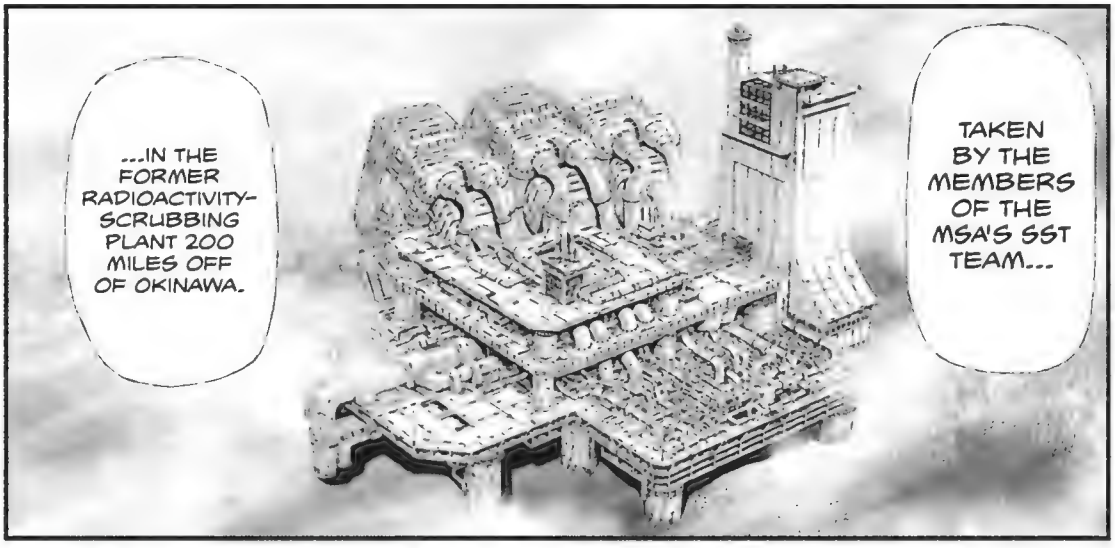
I REMEMBER IT WELL...
IN FACT...
...IT FELT VERY FAMILIAR TO ME...
NOW I REMEMBER!
THE CASE WAS NEVER SOLVED.


THEY LOCATED AND RAIDED MULTIPLE BRIGADE HIDEOUTS, BUT NEVER FOUND THE GIRL.
IF ALIVE, SHE'D BE 26...A YOUNG LADY BY NOW.

SO WAS THIS PHOTO TAKEN...
...BACK IN THE DAY?

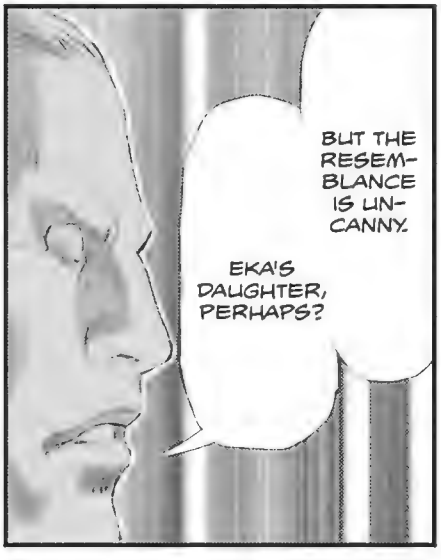

NO...
THAT'S FROM TWO DAYS AGO.

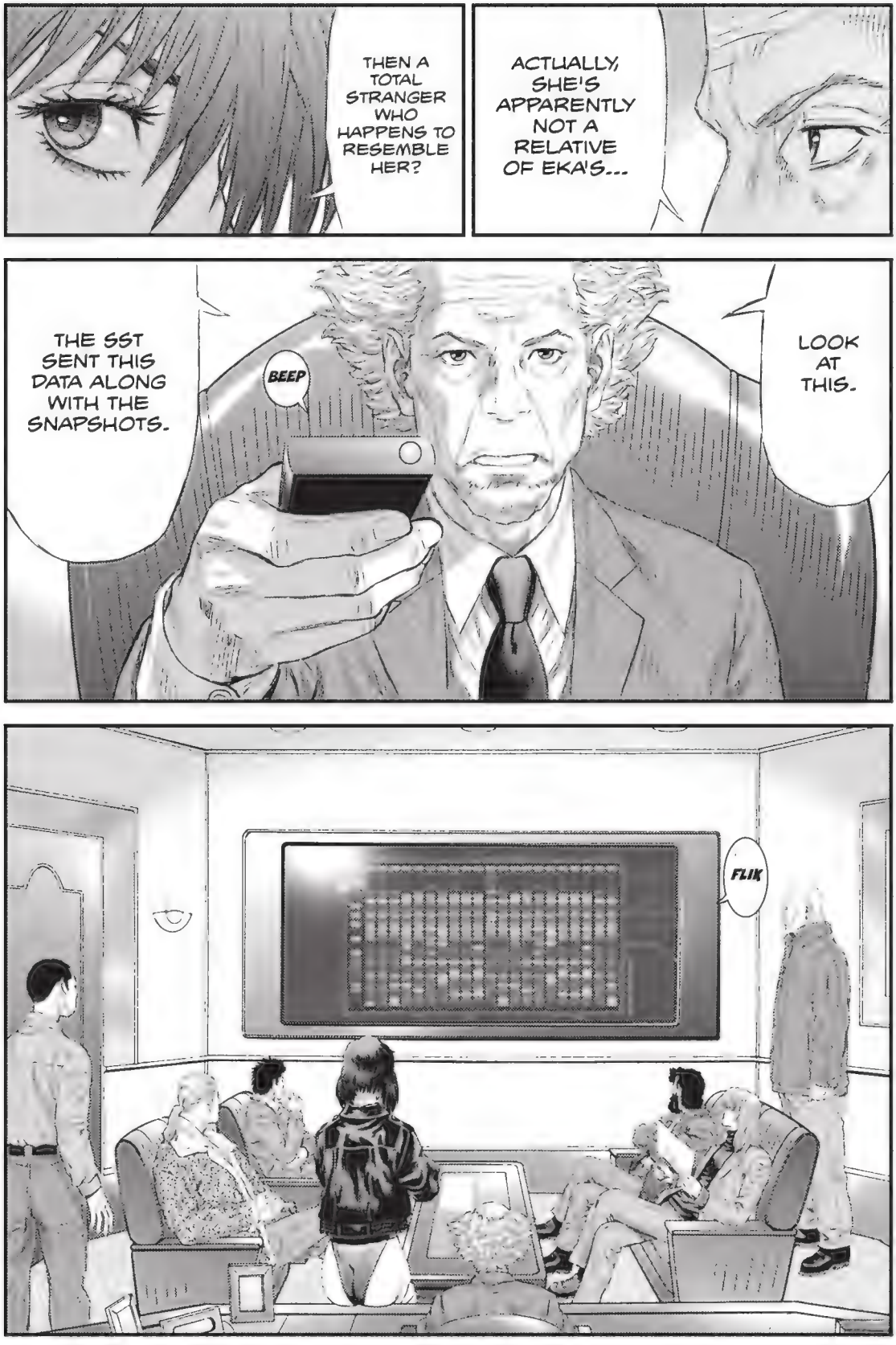



...IN THE FORMER RADIOACTIVITY-SCRUBBING PLANT 200 MILES OFF OF OKINAWA.
TAKEN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MSA'S SST TEAM...

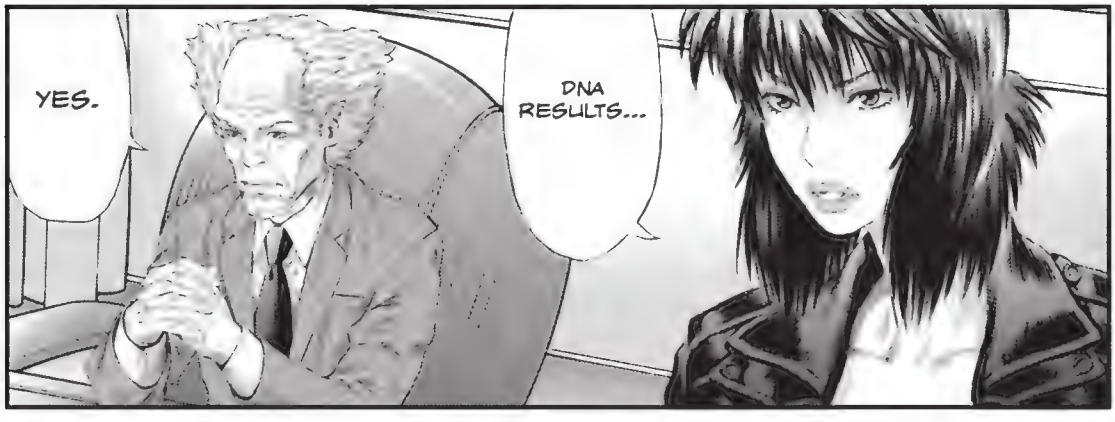
TWO DAYS AGO? THEN THIS LITTLE GIRL IN THE PHOTOS...
...CAN'T BE EKA TOKURA HERSELF...

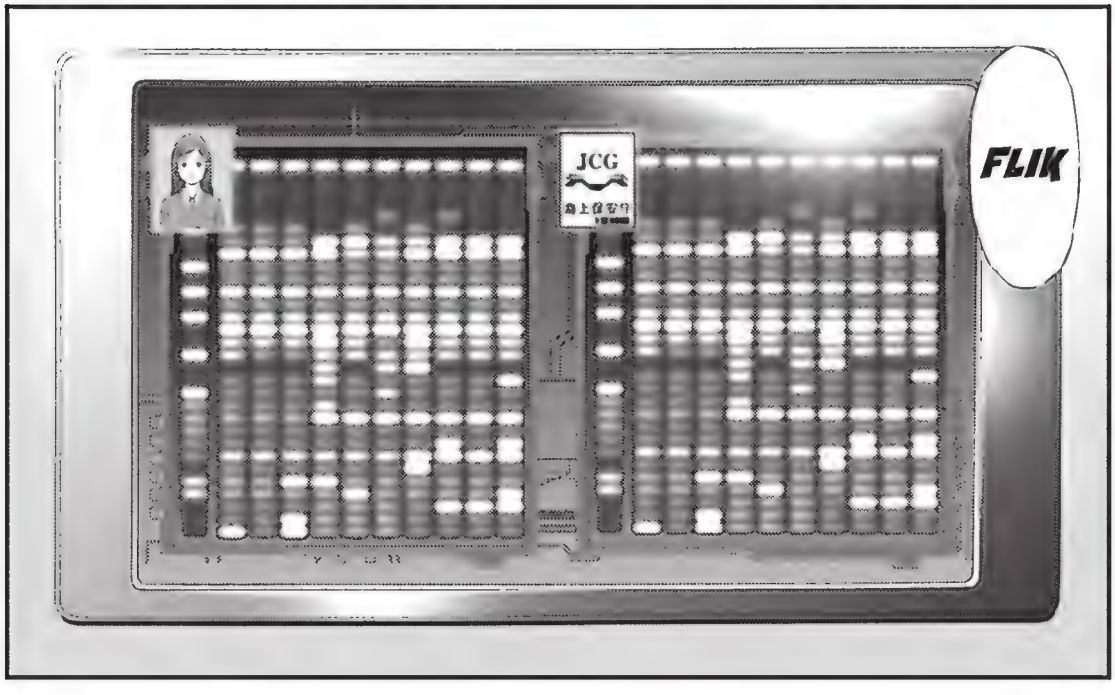
THAT MAKES THIS ALL THE MORE PUZZLING, THEN.
WHY WOULD A GIRL SUSPECTED OF BEING EKA'S BLOOD RELATIVE BE WORKING WITH THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE?


BUT THE RESEM-BLANCE IS UN-CANNY.
EKA'S DAUGHTER, PERHAPS?


THEN A TOTAL STRANGER WHO HAPPENS TO RESEMBLE HER?
ACTUALLY, SHE'S APPARENTLY NOT A RELATIVE OF EKA'S...
THE SST SENT THIS DATA ALONG WITH THE SNAPSHOTS.
BEEP
LOOK AT THIS.
FLIK

JCG
BIP
BIP...


YES.
DNA
RESULTS...


JCG
FLIK

ARE YOU SURE THEY DIDN'T GIVE OFF A DUMMY DNA PROFILE?
BUT SHE'S OBVIOUSLY STILL TEN YEARS OLD!
SHE HASN'T AGED A DAY FROM HER ABDUCTION 16 YEARS AGO!!
IT MATCHES!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? IS THAT GIRL EKA TOKURA...
...HERSELF?!
...BUT A COMPARISON TO OLD SAMPLES ON RECORD MAKES IT CLEAR THAT SHE IS INDEED EKA.
IT'S UNCLEAR HOW THE SST GOT THIS SAMPLE, EXACTLY...
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON AT THAT ISLAND?!
AN IMMORTAL GIRL, HUH...?

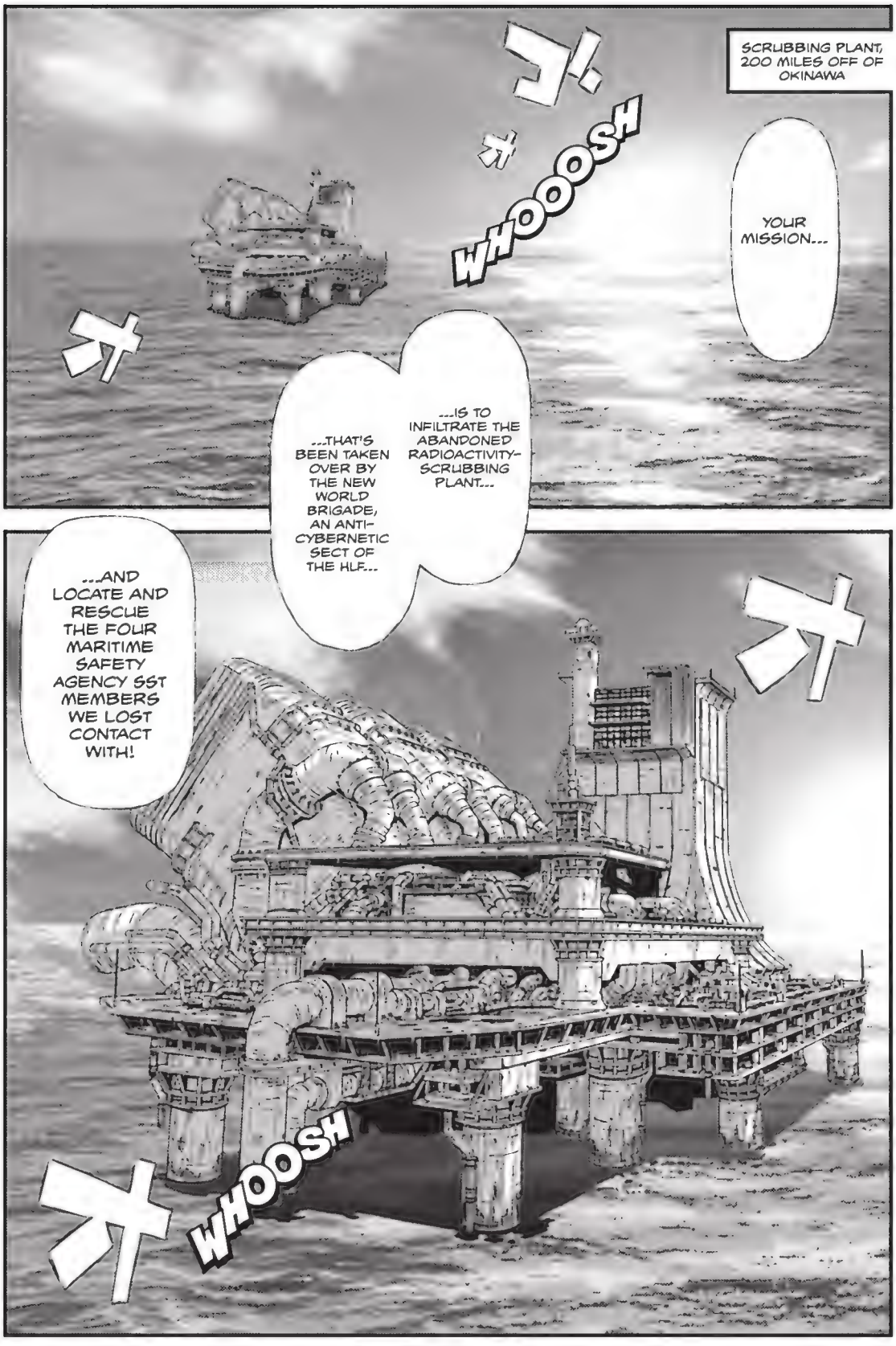
...IS YOUR NEW ASSIGNMENT.
FIGURING OUT THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION...

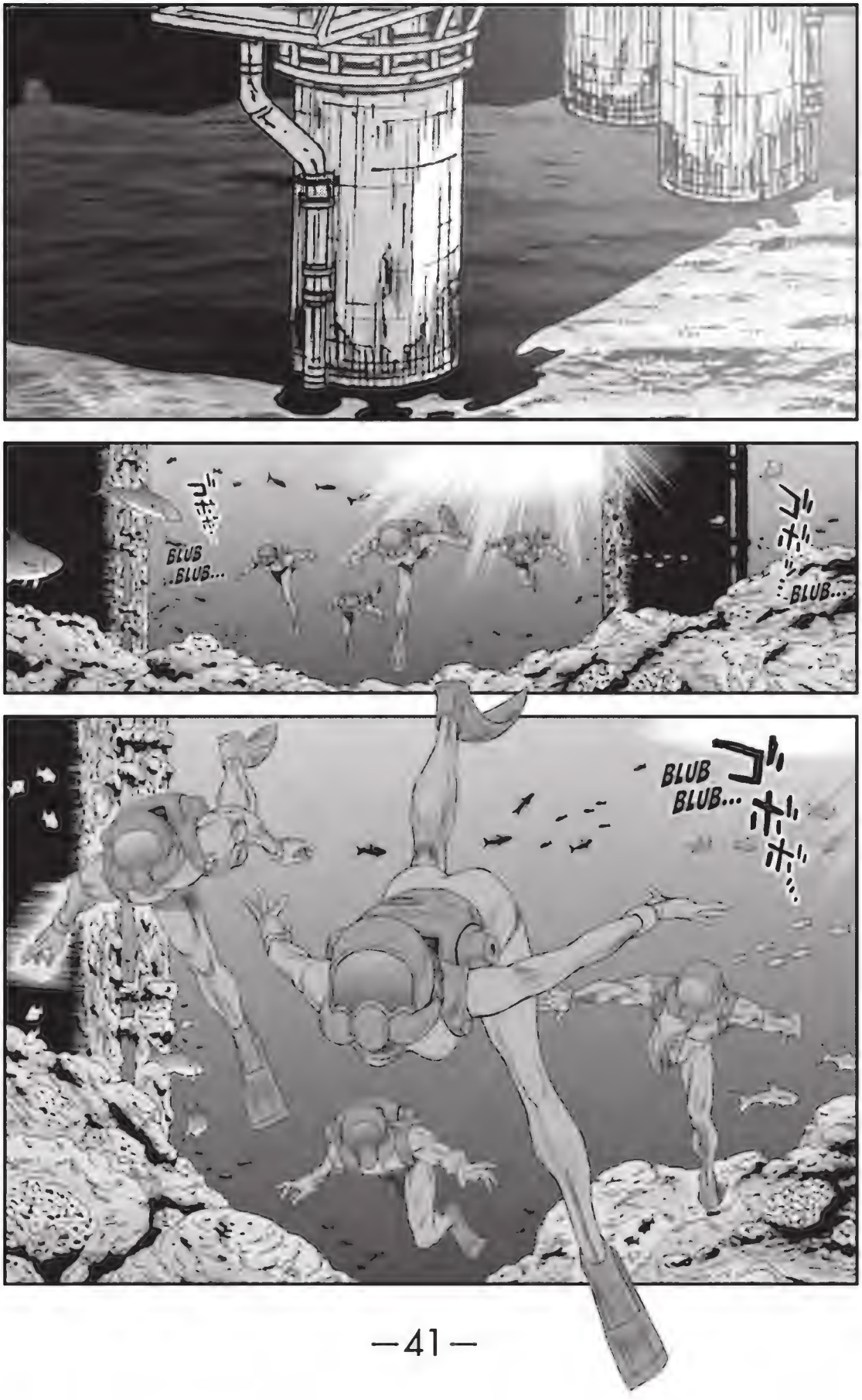
NOW GO!!
...YOU MUST FIND THE MISSING SST SQUAD AND RESCUE THEM, IF NECESSARY!!
FIRST OFF...
ROGER!

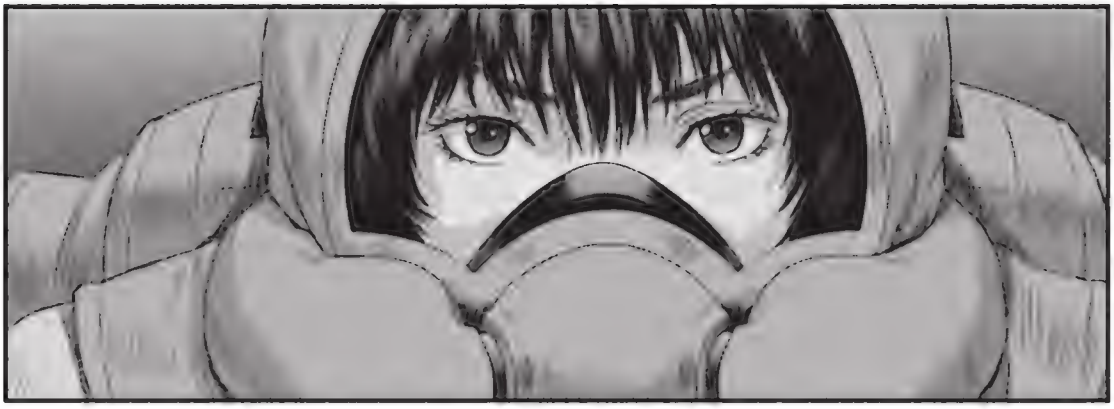
AN ELITE SQUAD THAT DIS-APPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE...
AND A GIRL REAPPEARING AFTER HER ABDUCTION 16 YEARS AGO, SEEMINGLY UNCHANGED...
WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THAT ABANDONED PLATFORM?!
VWOOOM

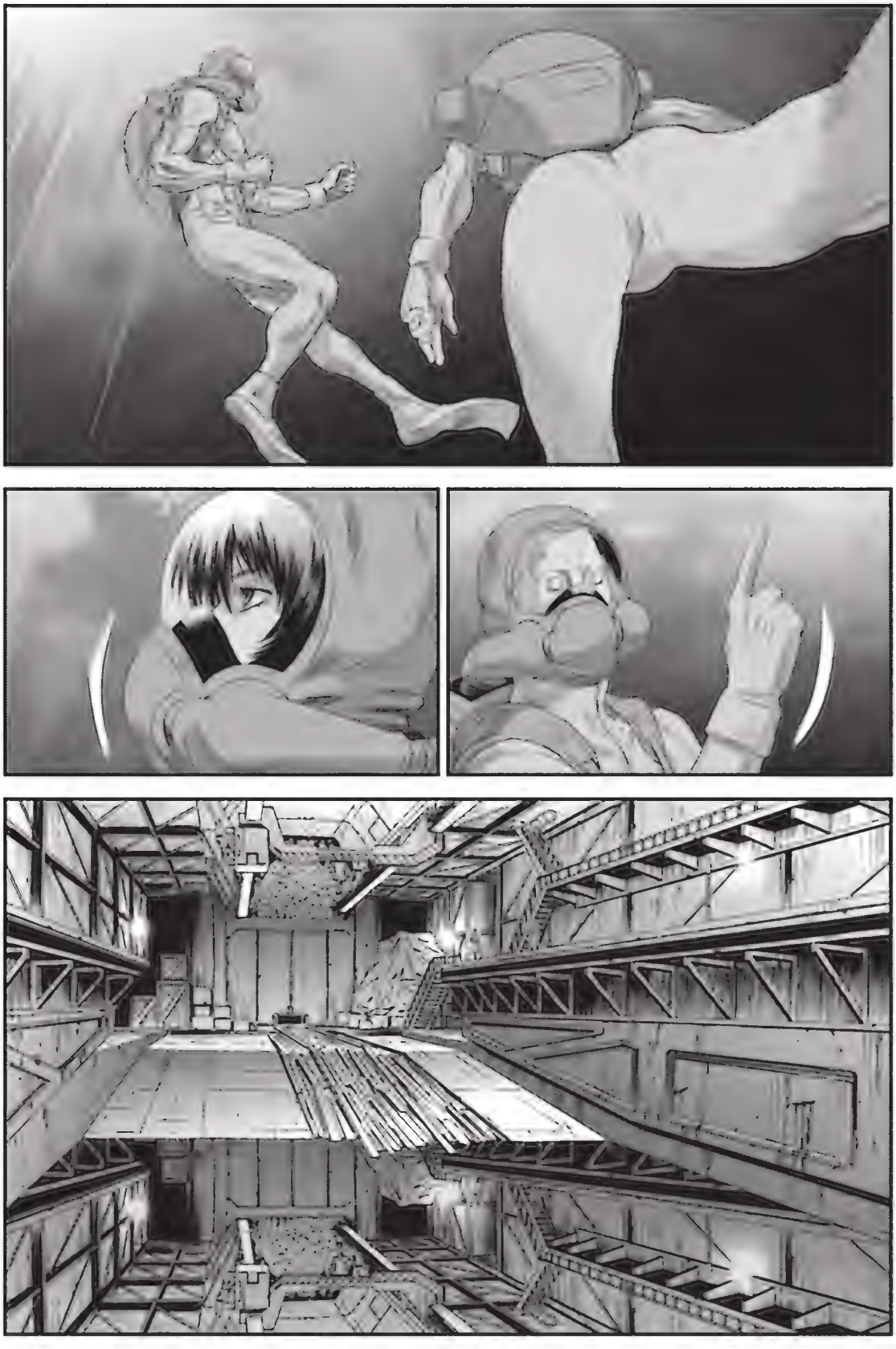
#033 End

#034: Infiltration

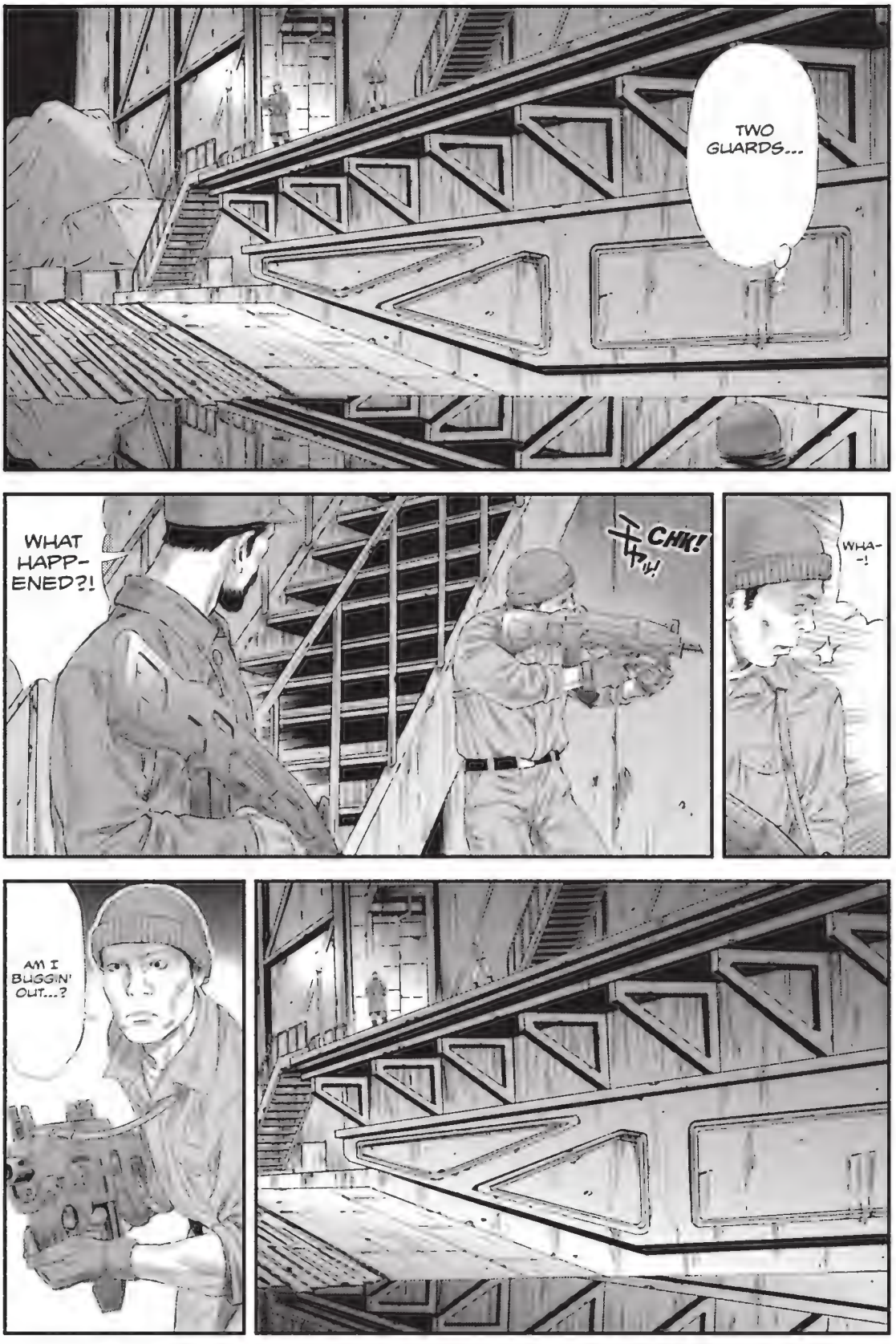

SCRUBBING PLANT, 200 MILES OFF OF OKINAWA
YOUR MISSION...
WHOOOOSH
...IS TO INFILTRATE THE ABANDONED RADIOACTIVITY-SCRUBBING PLANT...
...THAT'S BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE, AN ANTI-CYBERNETIC SECT OF THE HLF...
...AND LOCATE AND RESCUE THE FOUR MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY SST MEMBERS WE LOST CONTACT WITH!
WHOOSH


ゴボボ
BLUB BLUB...
ゴボボ
BLUB...
BLUB BLUB...
ゴボボ...





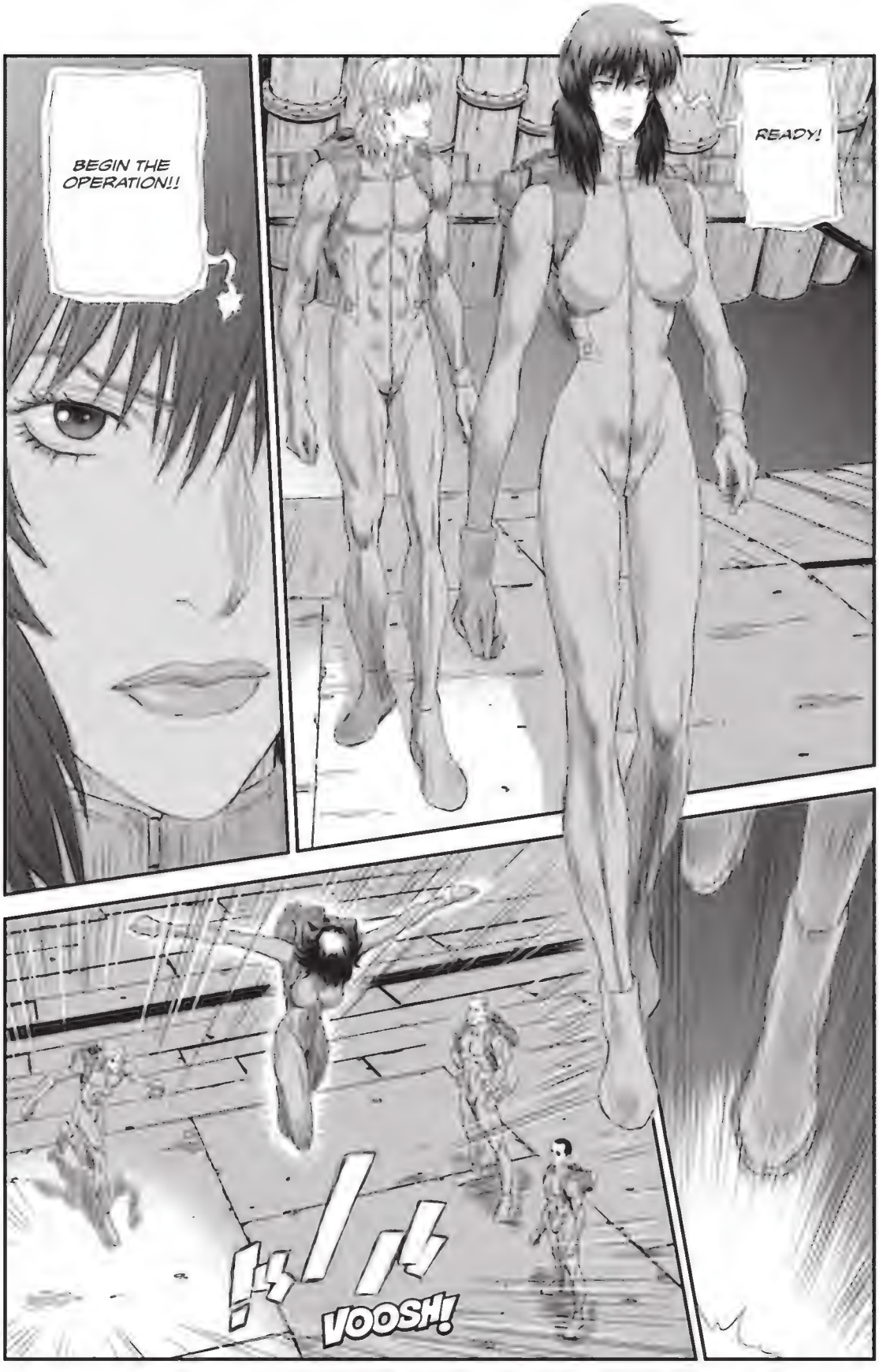
zsh...
ズッ...
tek...
たっ...
BWUP


TWO GUARDS...
WHAT HAPP-ENED?!
CHK!
WHA-!
AM I BUGGIN' OUT...?

TWO GUARDS! SAITO AND I WILL TAKE 'EM.
MAJOR AND TOGUSA, COME ON UP WHILE WE'RE DOING THAT.
ROGER.
WHAT WAS THAT...?
YOU DIDN'T FEEL ANY-THING?
THOUGHT I HEARD SOME-THING...

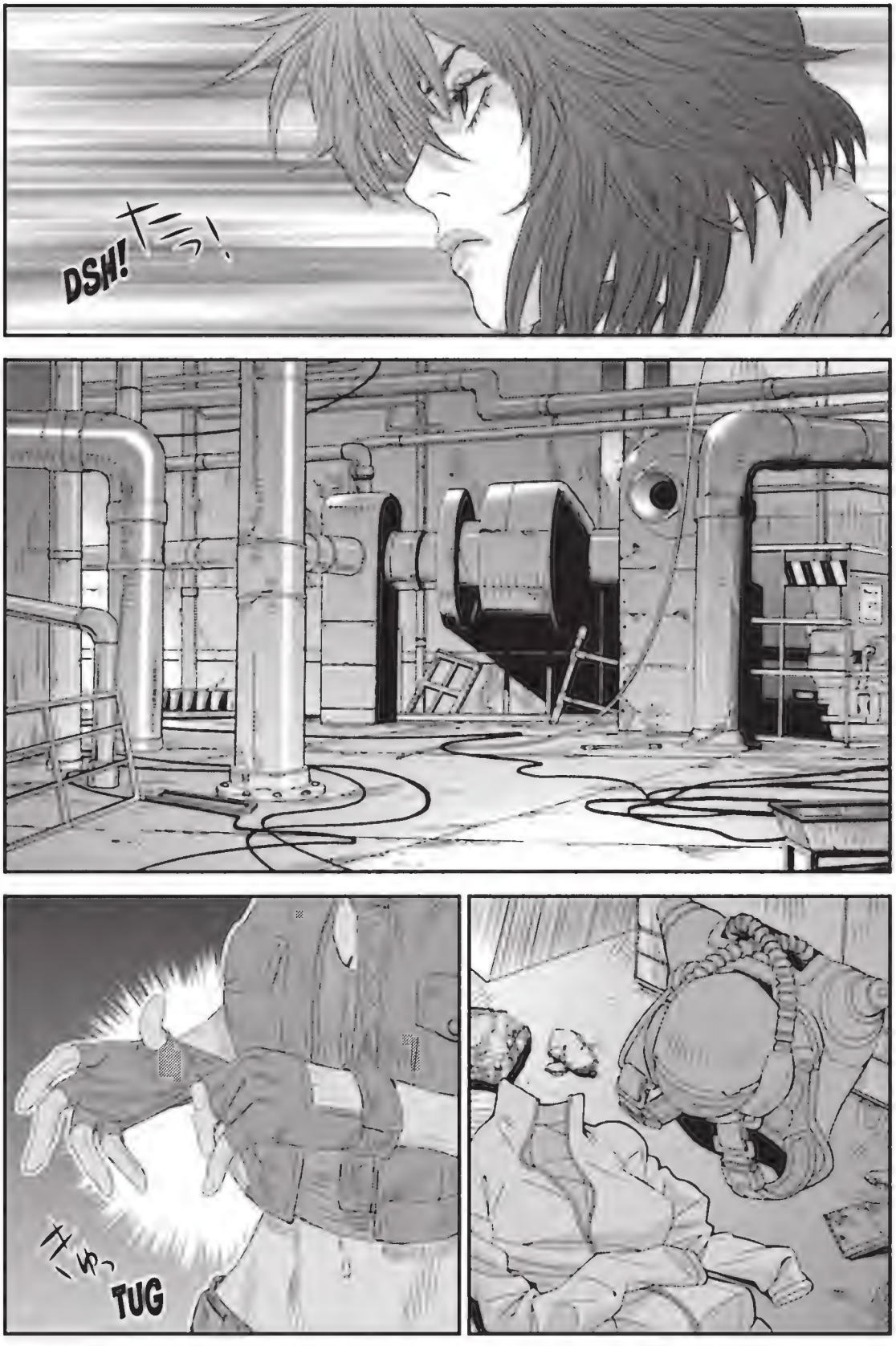
WEIRD...
HUH?
WHERE'D HE GO?
---!!
HEY!
SOME-THIN' HAPP-EN?!
HMM?
OVER HERE.

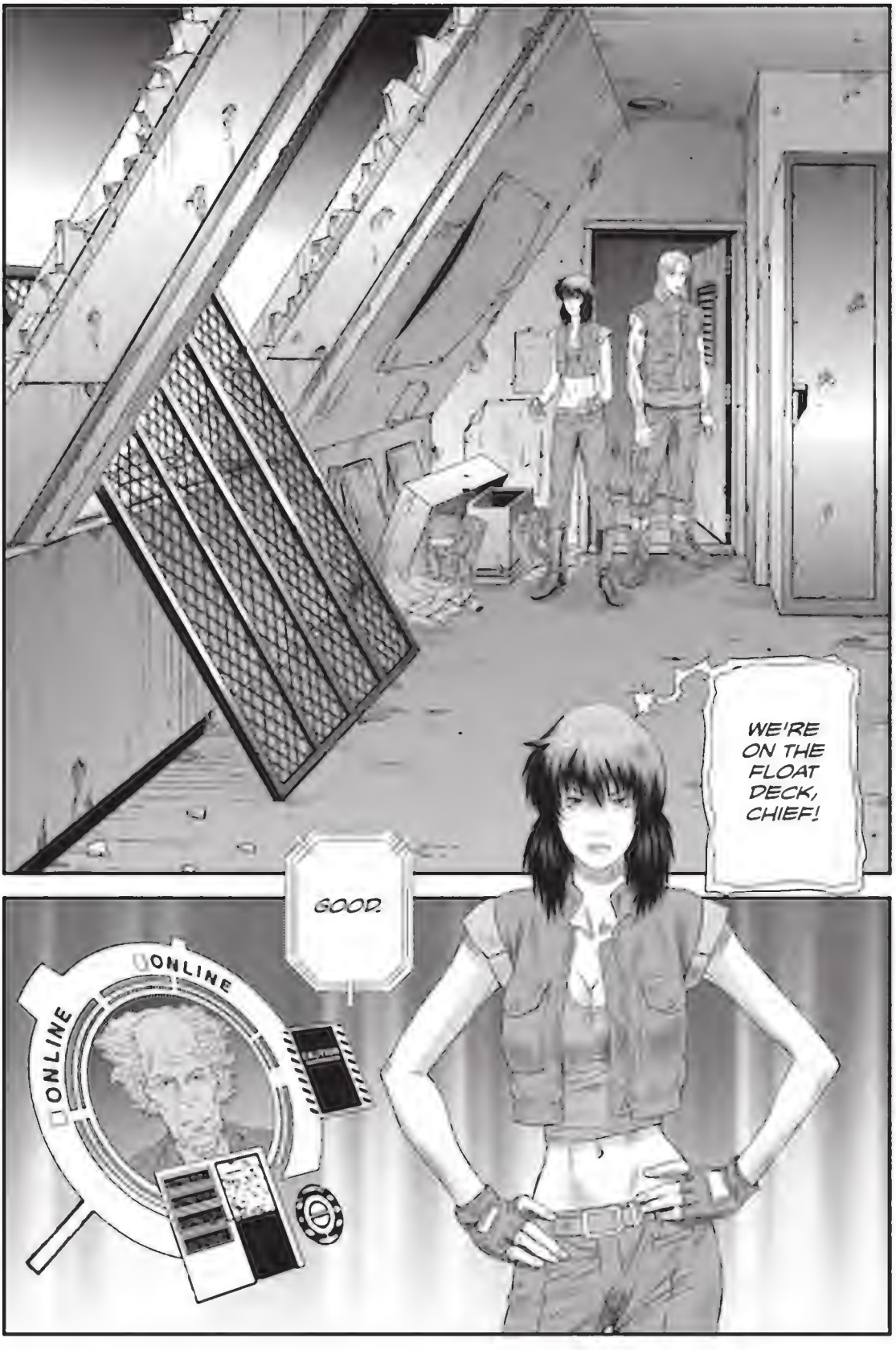
THWAM
URGH!
WHA--?!
BAM!
HEH HEH!
EASY AS PIE...
MAJOR!
LET'S GET GOING.


BEGIN THE OPERATION!!
READY!
VOOSH!

tek
tek
TSH
TOGUSA AND I WILL SECURE THE UPPER FLOAT DECK SO WE CAN BRING IN THE SECTION CHIEF'S SUB.
BATÔ AND SAITO, CIRCLE AROUND TO THE BLACK MARKET.
ROGER!

tep
tep
DSH


DSH!
TUG


WE'RE ON THE FLOAT DECK, CHIEF!
GOOD.
ONLINE
ONLINE

GRRRMMM

...IT'S IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE.

AND DEFINITELY LARGE ENOUGH FOR THE SUB TO FIT.

GOOD. WE'LL DOCK IT, THEN.

NO SIGN OF THE ENEMY.

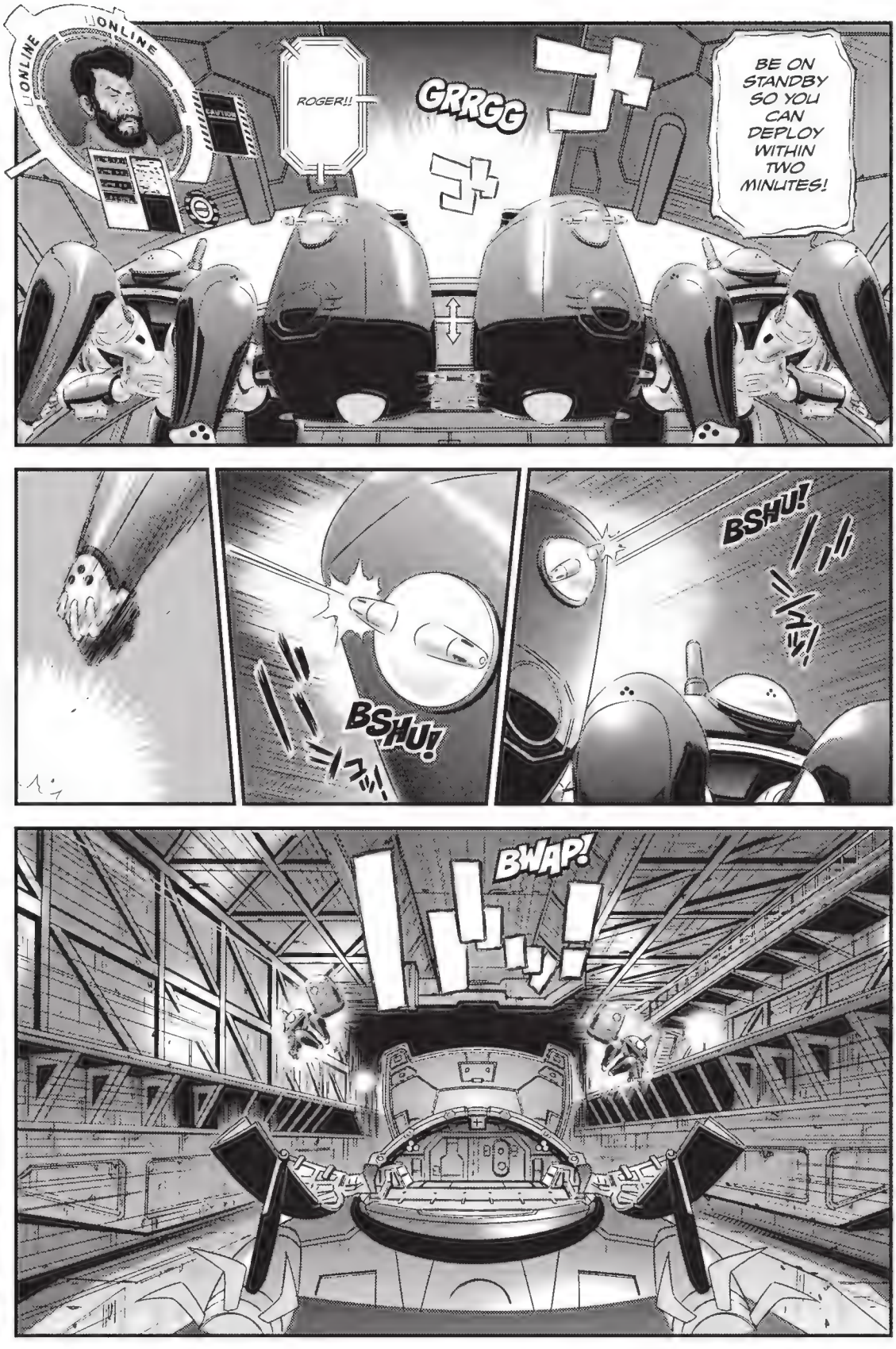
FOR A PLACE THAT'S BEEN ABANDONED FOR MORE THAN A DECADE...

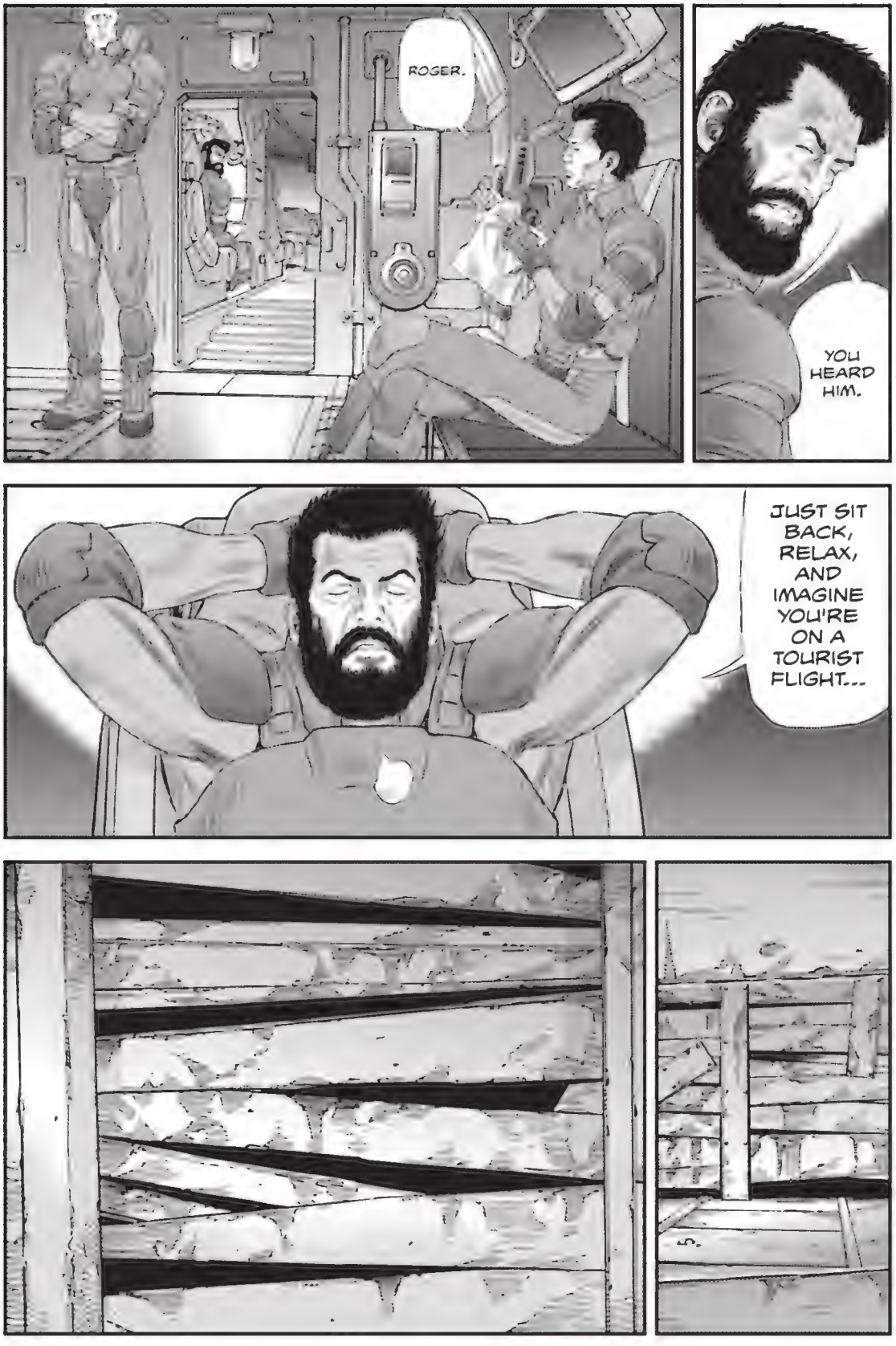
HOW DOES IT LOOK THERE?

GRGG...
GRRG...
ISHIKAWA, AERIAL SUPPORT!
ANY MOVEMENT FROM THE PLANT'S CONTROL TOWER THAT WAS SENDING THE GPS?
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

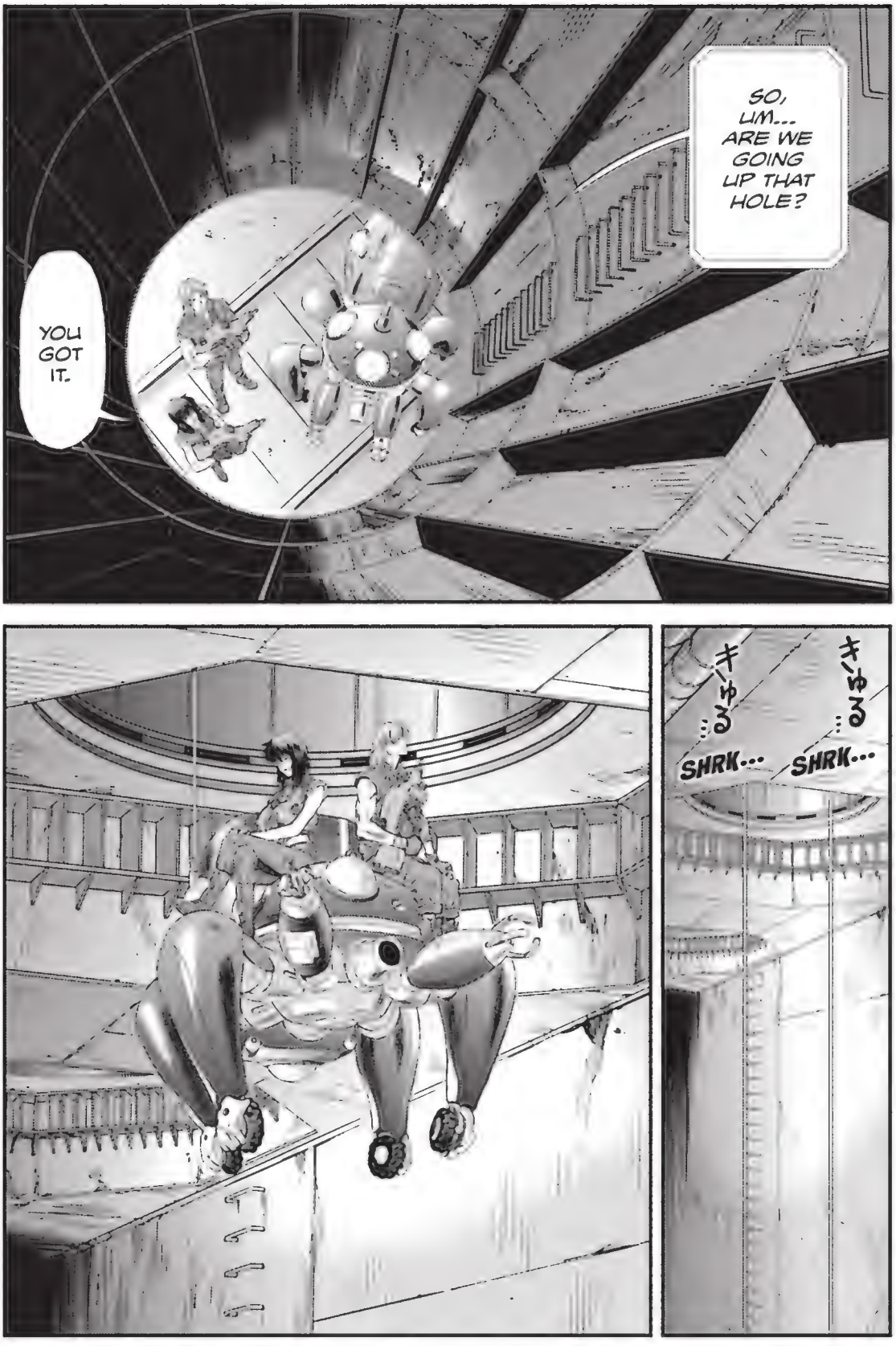
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
THE SIGNAL'S COLD NOW. ALL QUIET UP HERE.
KINDA MAKES ME WANT TO SIT BACK WITH A FISHING ROD AND SOAK IN THE SUN.
ZPUSHH

DSSHHH
THERE WAS A SINGLE GPS SIGNAL FROM THE SST TEAM...
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT AGENT WILL NOTICE US...
GRRGG...
PSNT!
...AND COME OUT ON HIS OWN.

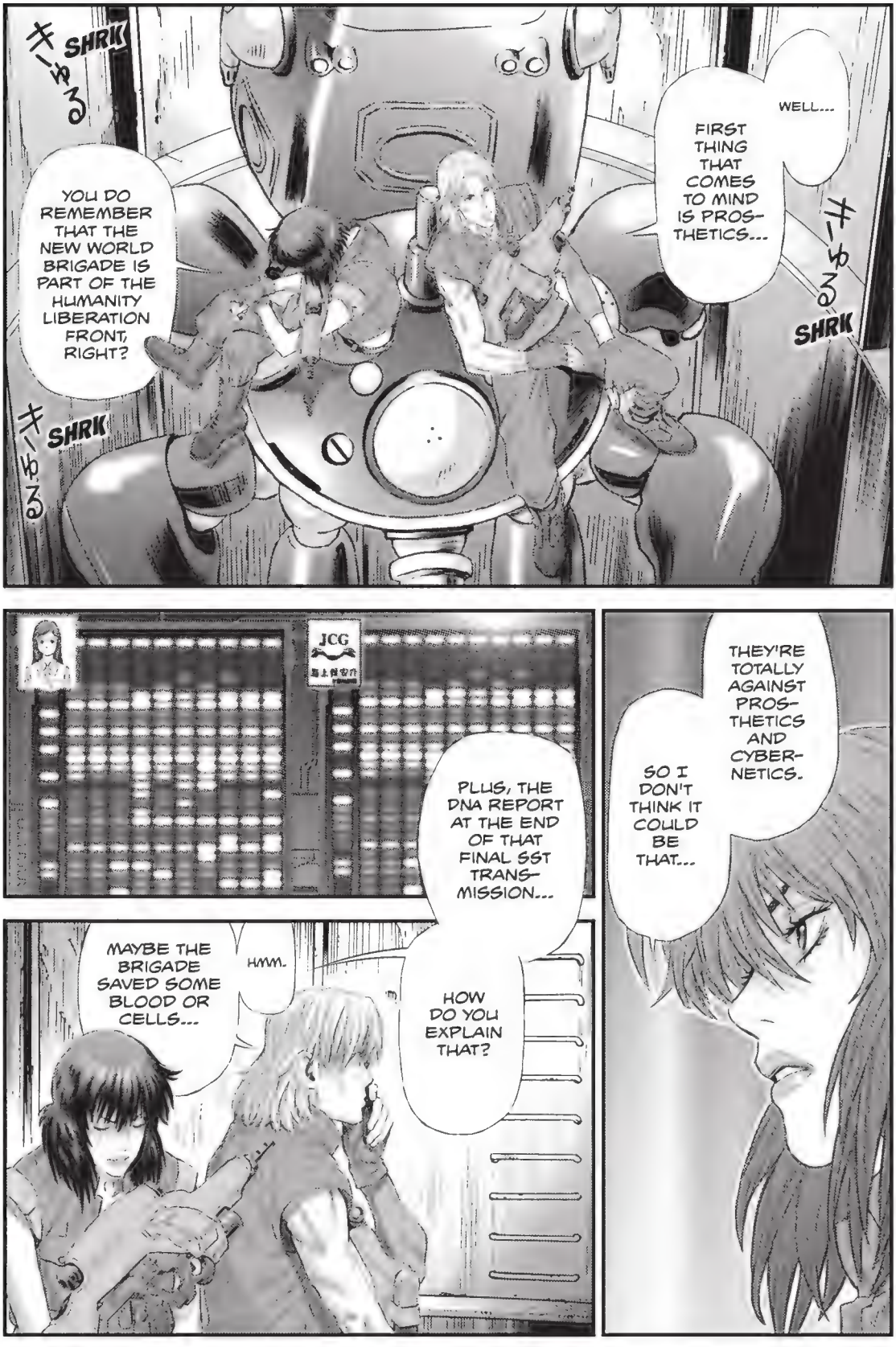

ONLINE
ONLINE
CAUTION
ROGER!!
GRRGG
BE ON STANDBY SO YOU CAN DEPLOY WITHIN TWO MINUTES!
BSHU!
BSHU!
BWAP!


ROGER.
YOU HEARD HIM.
JUST SIT BACK, RELAX, AND IMAGINE YOU'RE ON A TOURIST FLIGHT...

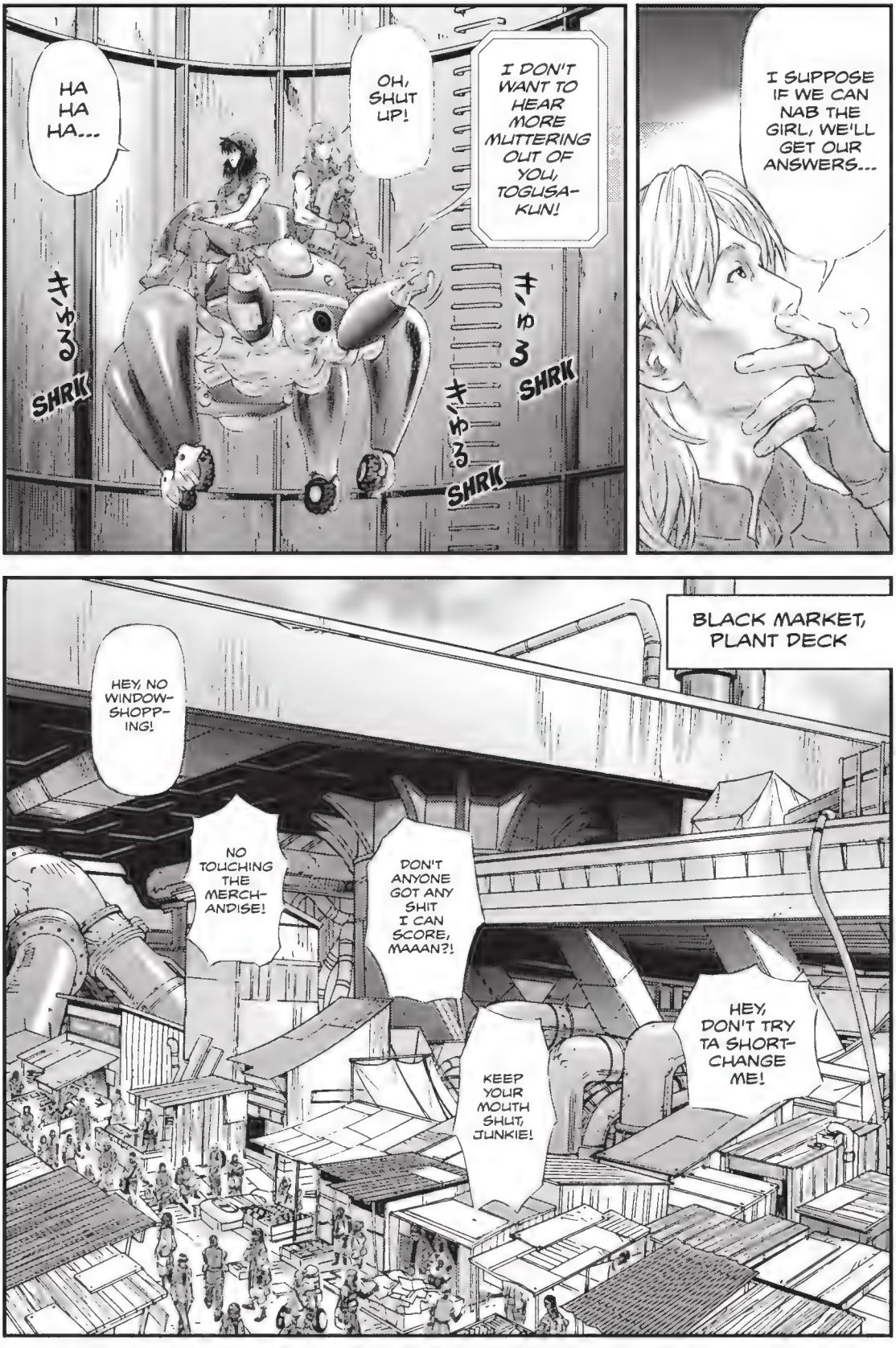
I CAN SEE THAT.
MA-JORRR! IT'S SEALED TIGHT WITH A BARRI-CADE!
WELL... IF YOU GIVE THE ORDER, I CAN SMASH IT DOWN...
NO! STAY PUT UNTIL WE'VE MADE CONTACT WITH THE TARGET.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER WAY AHEAD.
...THAT THERE'S SOME-THING AHEAD...
THE FACT THAT IT'S BARRI-CADED HERE WOULD SUGGEST...


SO, UM... ARE WE GOING UP THAT HOLE?
YOU GOT IT.
キュる...
SHRK...
キュる...
SHRK...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...IS THIS JUST THE BRIGADE TOYING WITH US?
SO I'M WONDER-ING...
...THEY'VE ALL BEEN WIPED OUT?
MEAN-ING...
DOESN'T MAKE SENSE THAT WE'D GET THEIR LOCATION, BUT NO RESPONSE.
WE ONLY PICKED UP ONE GPS SIGNAL FROM THE SST TEAM.
WHO WOULD IT BE, THEN?
I CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE WHO THINKS IT MIGHT NOT ACTUALLY BE EKA...
I MEAN, YOU SAW THAT G.RL...
I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE...


キーぅる
SHRK
YOU DO REMEMBER THAT THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE IS PART OF THE HUMANITY LIBERATION FRONT, RIGHT?
WELL...
FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND IS PROS-THETICS...
キーぅる
SHRK
JCG
PLUS, THE DNA REPORT AT THE END OF THAT FINAL SST TRANS-MISSION...
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT?
HMM.
MAYBE THE BRIGADE SAVED SOME BLOOD OR CELLS...
THEY'RE TOTALLY AGAINST PROS-THETICS AND CYBER-NETICS.
SO I DON'T THINK IT COULD BE THAT...

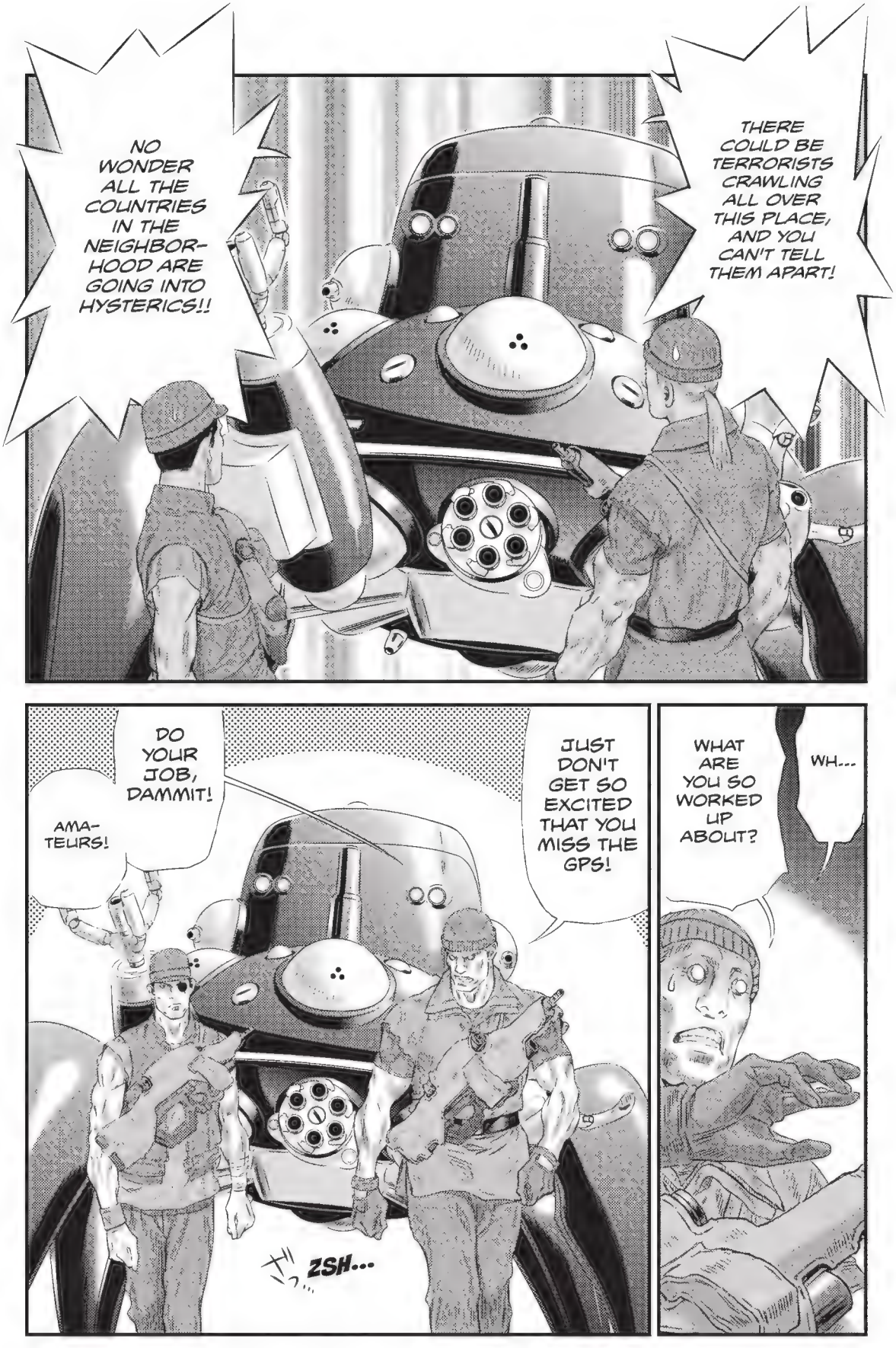
TO WHAT END?
...AND MADE A CLONE OF HER?
...GIVEN THAT SHE'S SHOWING UP 16 YEARS YOUNGER THAN SHE SHOULD BE.
I CAN'T SEE ANY COUNTER-PROOF FOR YOUR CLONE THEORY, BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE...
...THEY'RE AFTER THE TOKURA INHERI-TANCE...
WELL, LET'S SAY...
...DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HER FOR YOURSELF?
AND CLONED HUMANS CANNOT LEGALLY INHERIT PROP-ERTY...
BUT NO MATTER THEIR PURPOSE, GIVEN OUR CURRENT DOUBTS...

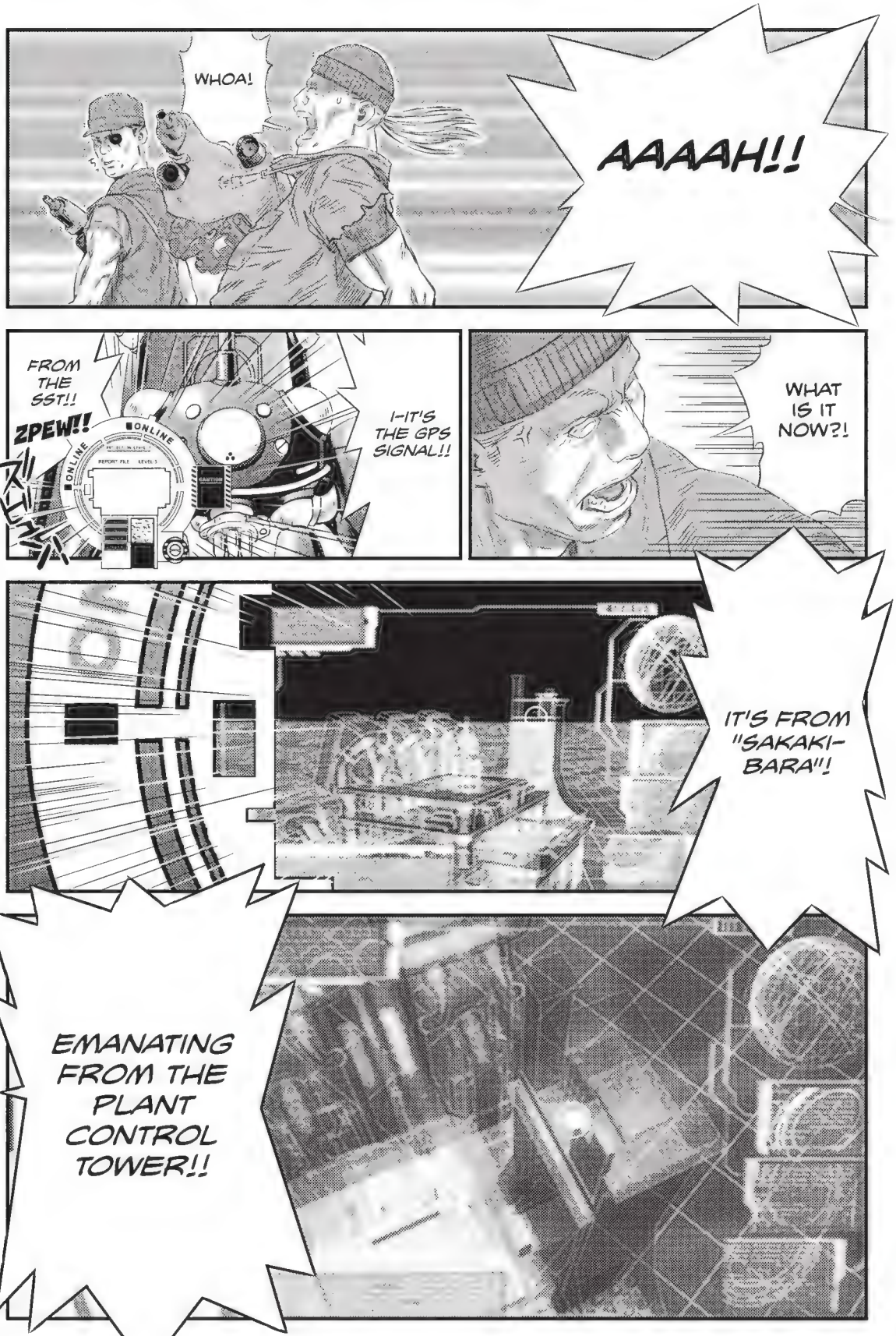

HA HA HA...
OH, SHUT UP!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR MORE MUTTERING OUT OF YOU, TOGUSA-KUN!
キゅる
SHRK
キゅる
SHRK
キゅる
SHRK
I SUPPOSE IF WE CAN NAB THE GIRL, WE'LL GET OUR ANSWERS...
BLACK MARKET, PLANT DECK
HEY, NO WINDOW-SHOPP-ING!
NO TOUCHING THE MERCH-ANDISE!
DON'T ANYONE GOT ANY SHIT I CAN SCORE, MAAAN?!
KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, JUNKIE!
HEY, DON'T TRY TA SHORT-CHANGE ME!

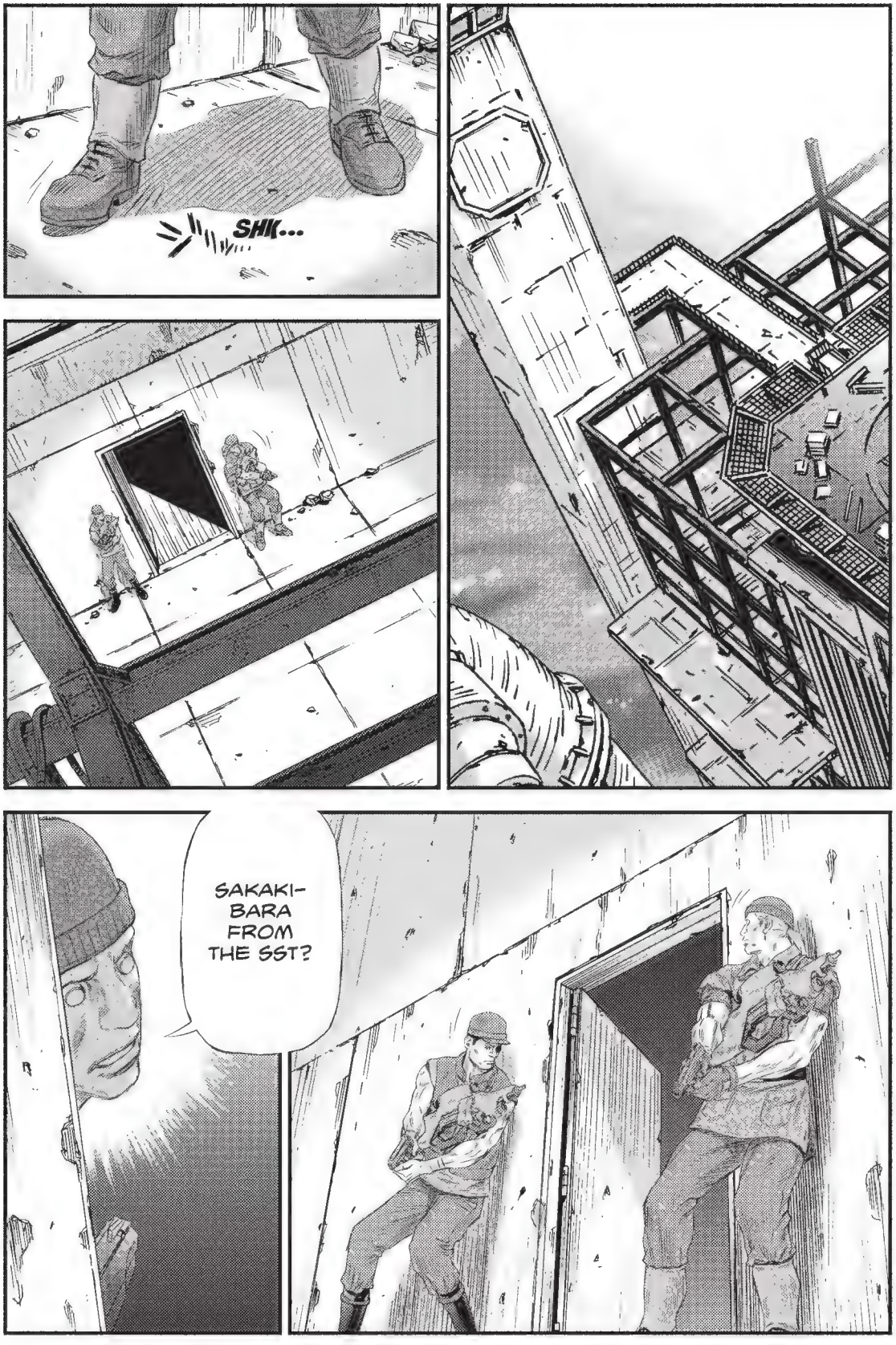
HEH HEH...
WE GOT THE GOOD STUFF!!
ONE CYBORG MEAL, COMING UP!

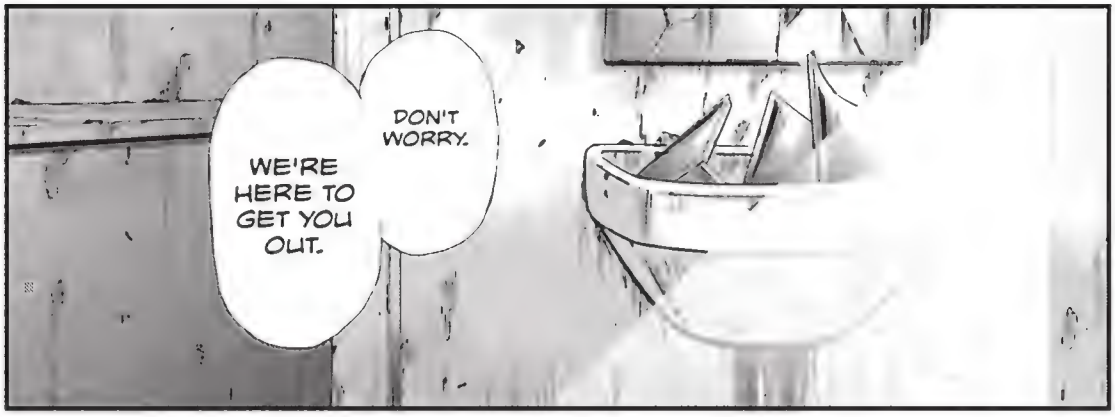
IT JUST LOOKS SO TASTE-LESS.
CAN'T TAKE THAT CYBORG FOOD.
chomp
Gulp!
特価
MUNCH
MUNCH
WANNA TRY IT?
HUH? NOT REALLY.
I MEAN, HURRY IT UP, GUYS!
MIGHT AS WELL EAT SOME-THING!
LOOK, THERE'S NOTHING TO DO UNTIL WE GET THE NEXT GPS SIGNAL...
I'LL PASS.

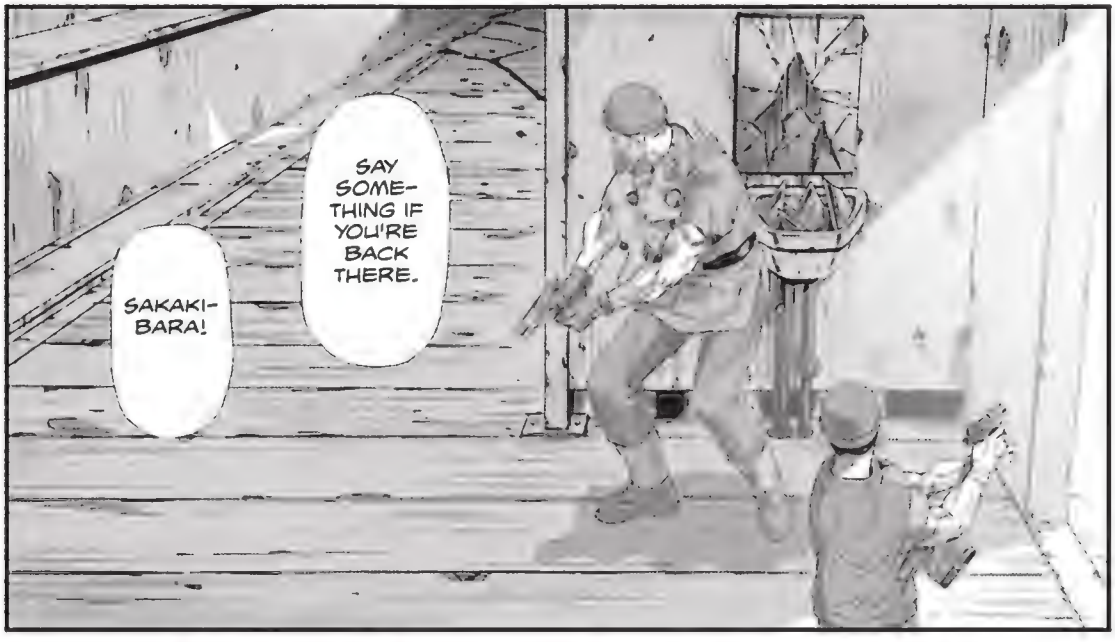
THIS PLACE IS SURROUNDED BY OPEN SEA ALL AROUND...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
IF THE BRIGADE WANTS TO SUPPORT ITSELF HERE, IT'S PRETTY EASY.
AND TO THE JUNKIES ROAMING THE SEA...
...THIS IS A FORTRESS OF FREE TRADE!
SCRUNCH
HE'S RIGHT, IT WAS GOOD!
OH MY GOD, THIS IS WORSE THAN EVEN THE DATA SUGGESTS!!

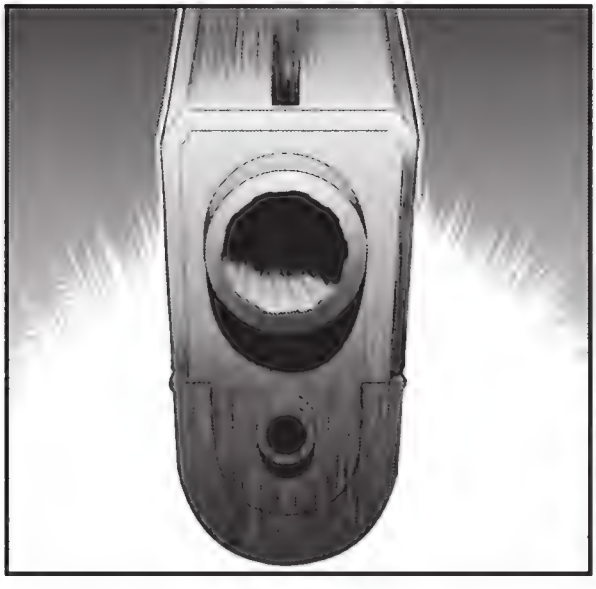

NO WONDER ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD ARE GOING INTO HYSTERICS!!
THERE COULD BE TERRORISTS CRAWLING ALL OVER THIS PLACE, AND YOU CAN'T TELL THEM APART!
AMA-TEURS!
DO YOUR JOB, DAMMIT!
JUST DON'T GET SO EXCITED THAT YOU MISS THE GPS!
ZSH...
WHAT ARE YOU SO WORKED UP ABOUT?
WH...


WHOA!
AAAAH!!
FROM THE SST!!
ZPEW!!
ONLINE
I-IT'S THE GPS SIGNAL!!
WHAT IS IT NOW?!
IT'S FROM "SAKAKI-BARA"!
EMANATING FROM THE PLANT CONTROL TOWER!!


SHK...
SAKAKI-BARA FROM THE SST?


DON'T WORRY.
WE'RE HERE TO GET YOU OUT.


SAY SOME-THING IF YOU'RE BACK THERE.
SAKAKI-BARA!



#034 End

#035: State of Derangement

K...
RATTLE...
KILL...
RATTLE...
RATTLE...
RATTLE...
RATTLE...
...ME...
KILL ME...
TSK...
NO CHOICE...
WHAT DO WE DO?
THIS IS BAD...
HE'S REALLY FREAKED OUT.

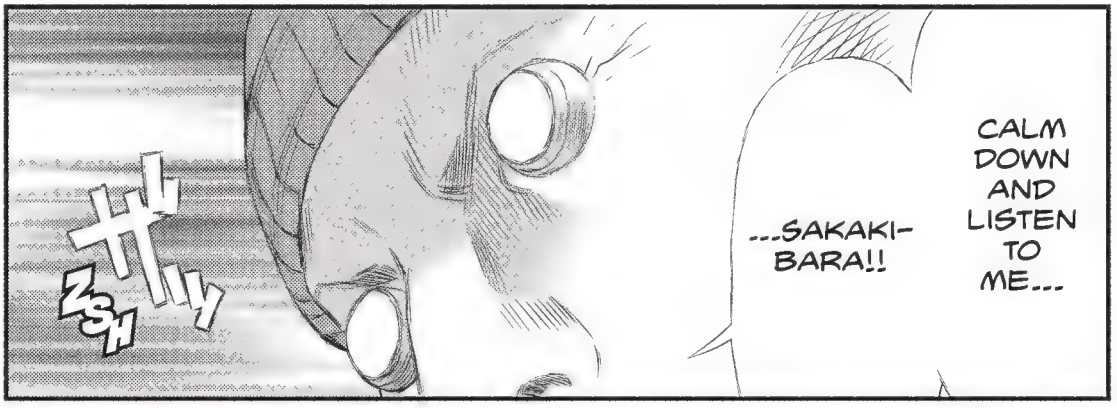
DSH
HEY!
TIK
MMF
NO, BATÔ! IT'S DANGER-OUS!
NAH.
IN THAT STATE...
...HE COULDN'T HIT A BARN.
ZSH!
SWISH
BATÔ!

AAAHH!!
WE'RE HERE TO RESCUE YOU SST GUYS!
WE'RE PUBLIC SECURITY!

RATTLE
GET RID OF THEM...
PLEASE...
I CAN'T DO IT ON MY OWN ANY-MORE...
RATTLE

AH... AH...
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

SWISH...


ZSH
...SAKAKI-BARA!!
CALM DOWN AND LISTEN TO ME...

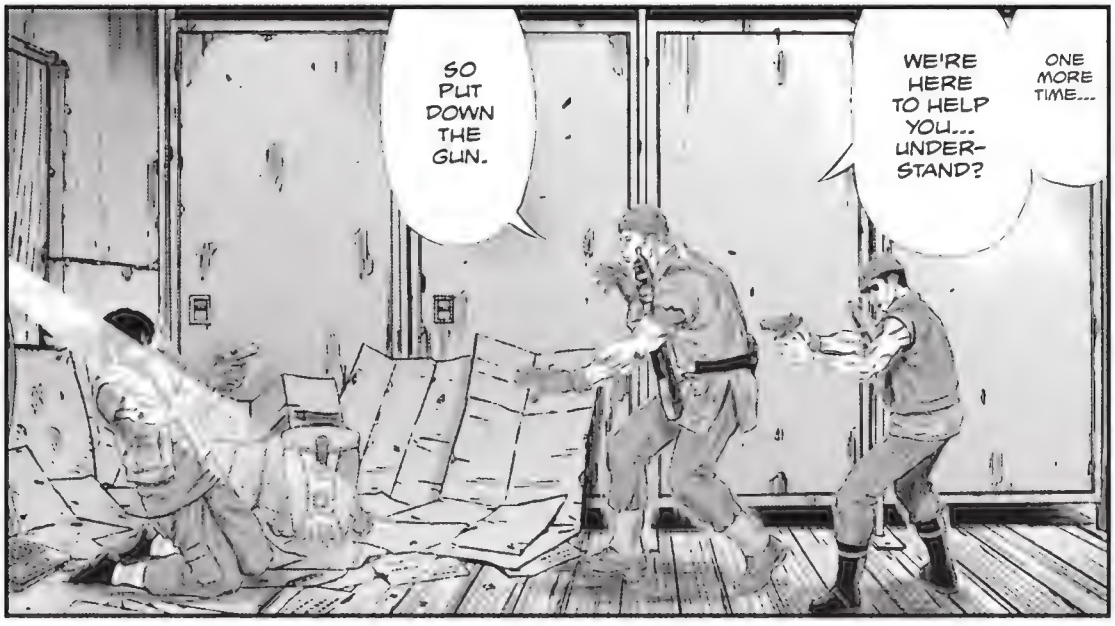
Nuff...
Nuff...
Nuff...
I CAN'T HANDLE THIS ANY-MORE!!
GET OUTTA MY HEAD...

JUST TAKE IT EASY...
...AND PUT DOWN THE GUN.

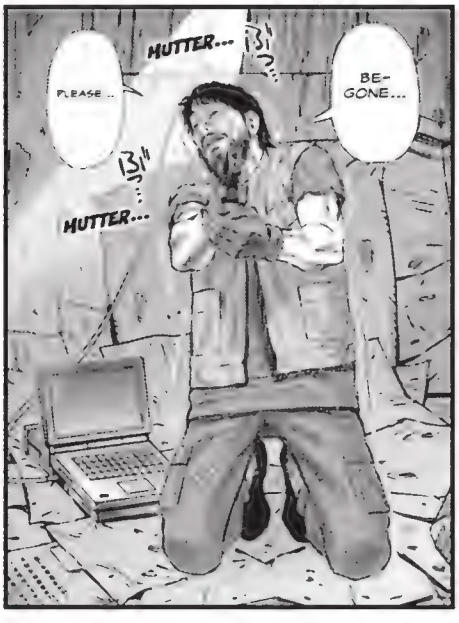
HE'S TOTALLY DERANGED!!
THIS WON'T WORK, BATÔ!

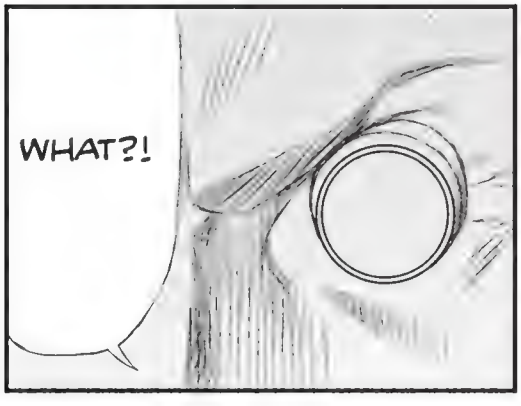
HWAAA-
AAHH!!
BAM!
!!!
BATOOO!!
!

DTT
DON'T SHOOT, SAITO!!
TEK!
SHIT!
HE CAN BARELY HOLD HIS HANDS UP, HE WON'T COME CLOSE TO HITTING ME!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

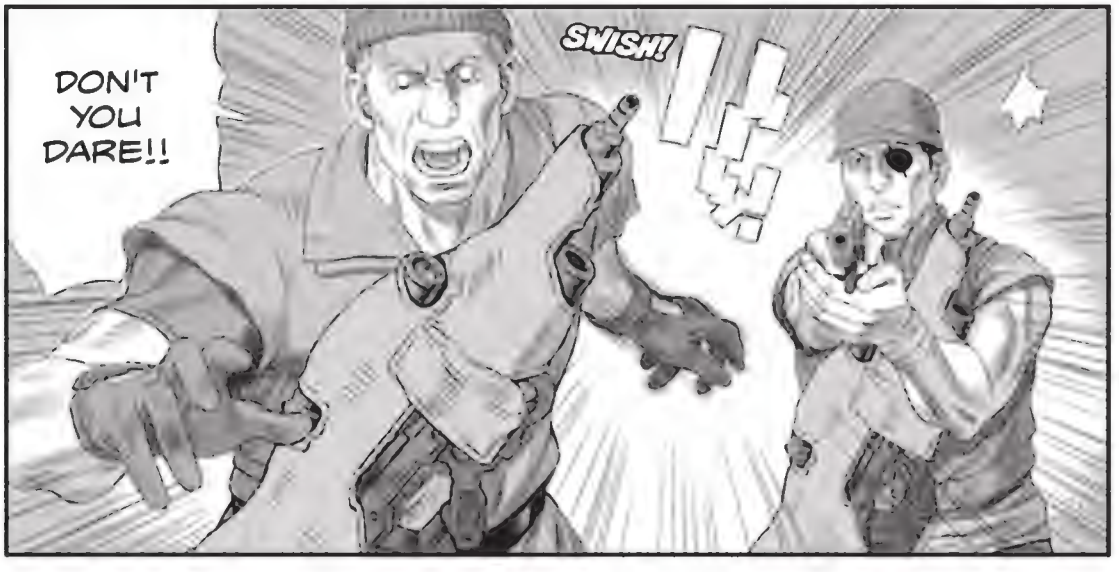

SO PUT DOWN THE GUN.
WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU... UNDER-STAND?
ONE MORE TIME...

YOU CAN DO IT, SAKAKI-BARA!
C'MON... TOSS ME THE GUN.


PLEASE..
HUTTER...
BE-GONE...
HUTTER...


WHAT?!

HUTTER
HUTTER
I CAN'T...
IT'S THE ONLY... WAY...


DON'T YOU DARE!!
SWISH!!

TUG
GET OUT OF HEEEEERE!!
BLAM!

TUG
GET A GRIP, SAKAKI-BARA! DO THEY LET JUST ANYONE INTO THE SST THESE DAYS?!
SHOVE!
SAITO, GET ME A SEDATIVE!
ROGER!

WE JUST NEED YOU TO CHILL OUT.
TWITCH
RRK...
PST...

ALL KILLED...

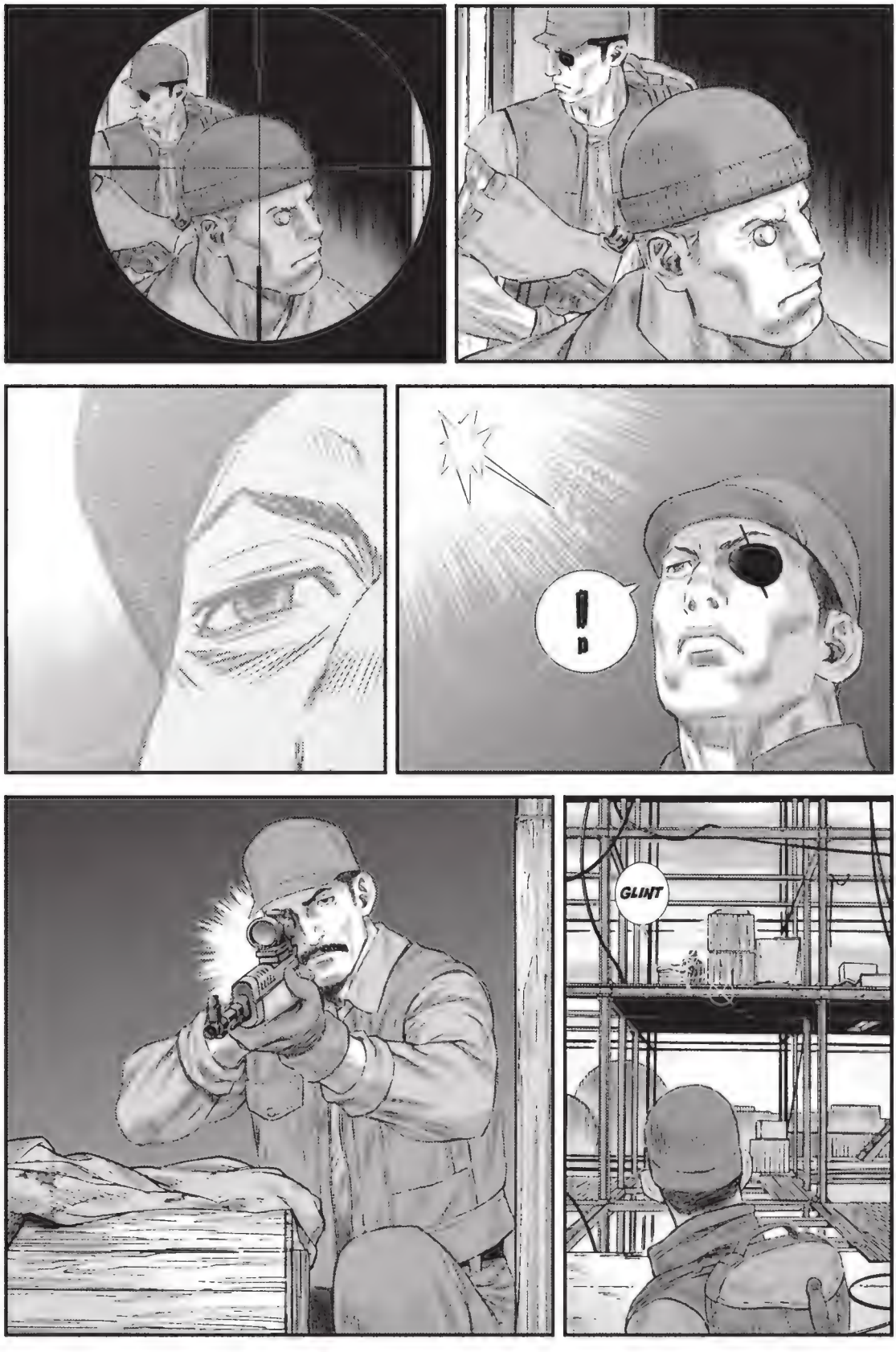
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER THREE?
WHAT THE HELL HAPP-ENED HERE?
TALK TO ME.
THE GIRL...
...KILLED ALL OF THEM...
SHE WAS THE LEADER...
WAIT A SEC-OND...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT EKA?!

SHE WAS ALIVE... SO WHY...?
IT'S TOO CRUEL...
GRAB!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SO YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT EKA?
AA-AHH...
...HMM?

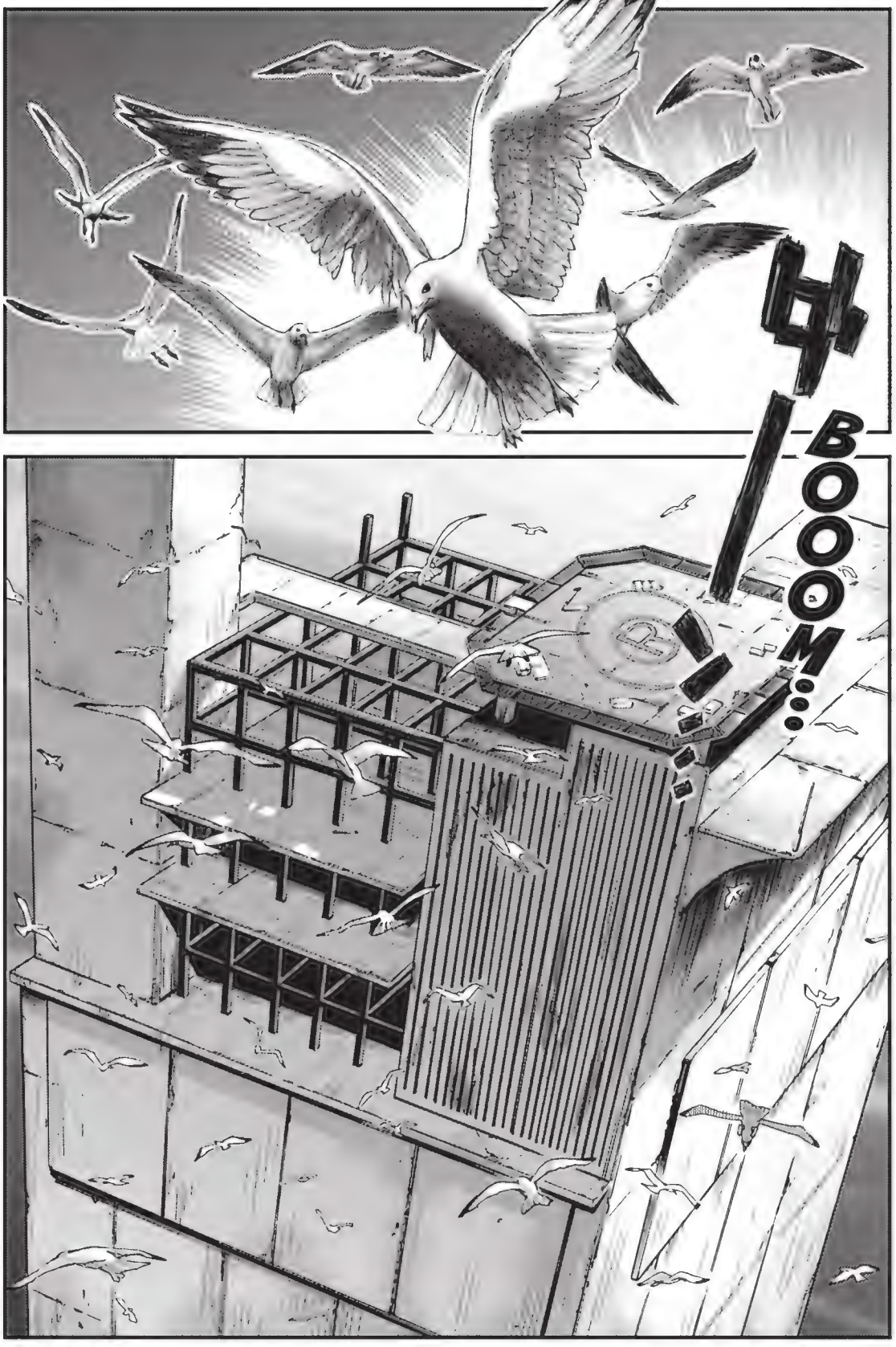
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "GET RID OF THEM"?!
WERE YOU CONNEC-TED TO HER?!
WHAT DID YOU SEE?
BATÔ!
!

DSHK...
TOSS
TAKE A LOOK.
WHAT'S THIS...?
LET'S GET SAKAKI-BARA OUT OF HERE.
SO IT SEEMS...
LOOKS LIKE THEY MANAGED TO GET REAL CLOSE TO THAT GIRL IN THE PICTURES.
I SEE...

ALL RIGHT.
GET HIS STUFF, SAITO.
Y- YEAH...
I'M ALL RIGHT...
CAN YOU STAND?
SHLUMP...
YOU ALL RIGHT?
ZSH
YEAH... I'M SORRY...


!
GLINT

GET DOWN, BATÔ!!
TUG
UGH!
ZMF!



#035 End

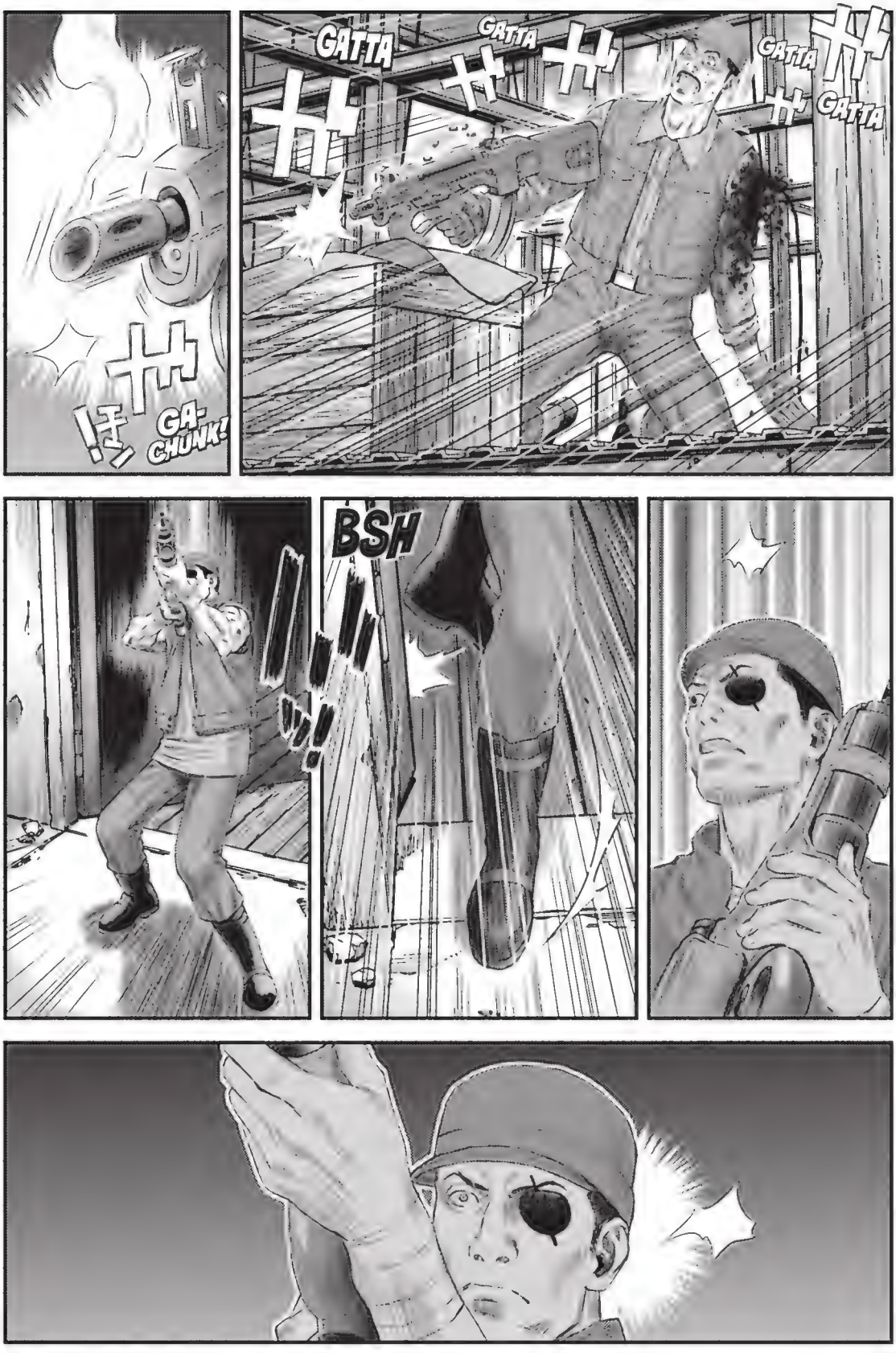
#036: The Brigade's Threat

GET DOWN, BATÔ!!
TUG
UGH!
ZMF!

AGH!!
BWAKK
DSHT
BATÔ!
GET BACK INSIDE!!
THUMP

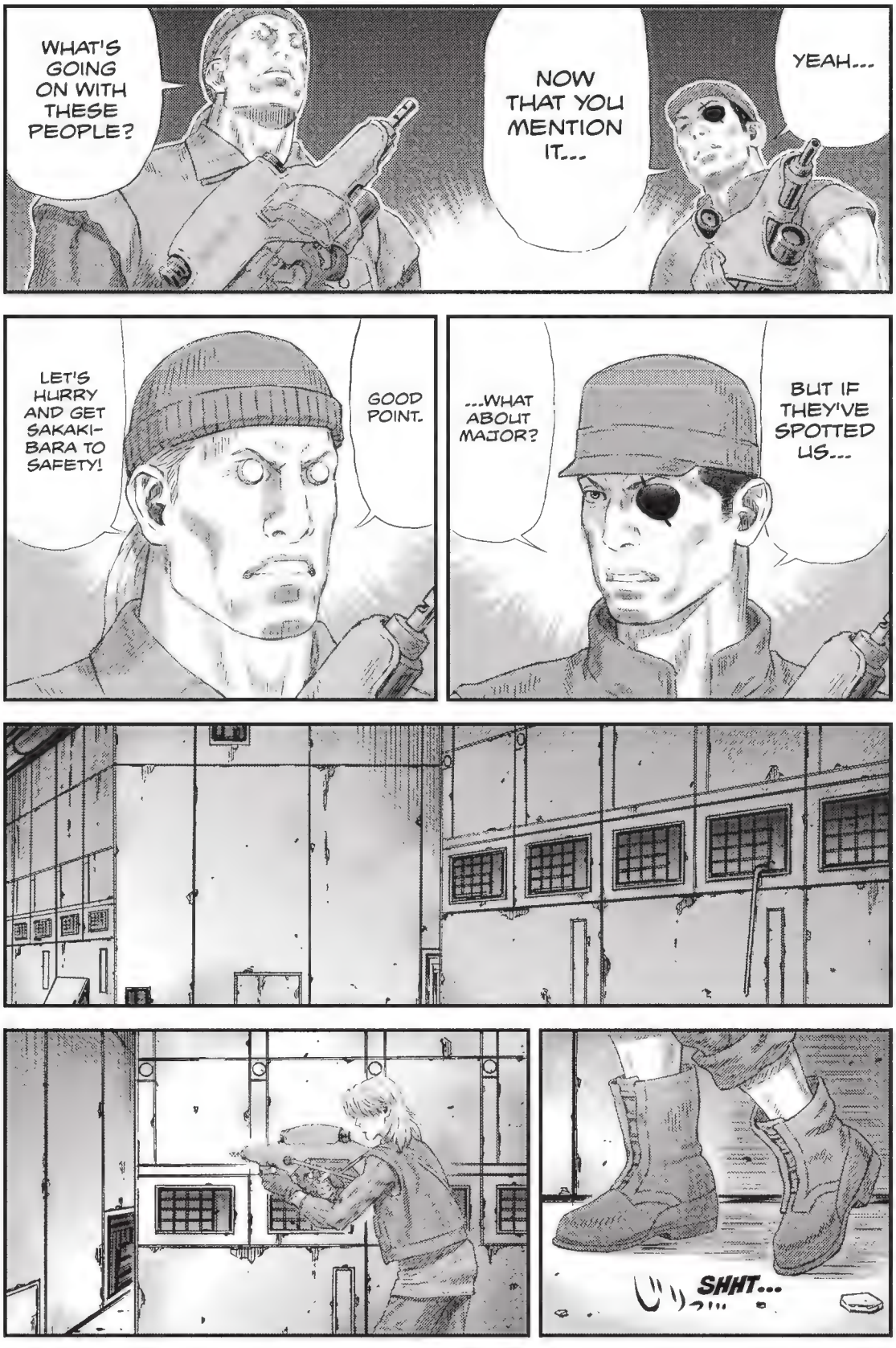
HURRY!!
HRRG...
SHKK...
DMFF!!

GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
PING!
GATTA
DSH
PING!
THEY KNEW WE WERE HERE!!
PING!
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
PING!
DSH
GATTA
DSH
DSH
PING!
GATTA
DSHH
GATTA
GATTA
WERE THEY KEEPING TABS ON US THE WHOLE TIME?!
GATTA
PING!
PING!


GA-CHUNK!
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
BSH

GLORY BE...
...TO THE NEW WORLD BRIG--
DSHK!

CHECK IT OUT, SAITO.
LOOK AT HIS FACE...
IT'S TERROR...
DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE HE WAS TOTALLY FREAKED OUT BY SOME-THING?


WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THESE PEOPLE?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
YEAH...
LET'S HURRY AND GET SAKAKI-BARA TO SAFETY!
GOOD POINT.
...WHAT ABOUT MAJOR?
BUT IF THEY'VE SPOTTED US...
SHHT...

SHH...
tek
BSHH

NO ONE OVER HERE.
ANYTHING, TOGUSA?
...IS PROB-ABLY UP ABOVE.
SWISH
THAT CONTROL ROOM-LOOKING PLACE IN THE PHOTOS...
THERE'S ONLY ONE CONTROL ROOM IN THIS PLANT, ANYWAY...

...?!
!
ANYTHING WRONG, MAJOR?
...
MAJOR?

I THINK...
...THEY MIGHT BE WATCHING US.
...BUT I HAVE A HUNCH...
I'M NOT CERTAIN...
MEAN-ING...
...THEY KNOW WE'RE INFIL-TRATING THE PLANT?
WE OUGHT TO BE ON HIGH ALERT.
NOT SURE...
OR IS THAT JUST "GHOST WHIS-PERS"?
I THOUGHT I HEARD GUN-SHOTS FROM UP ABOVE...

WAIT!!
ROGER!
OVER THERE...
I CAN SENSE SOME-ONE!
SWISH
SWISH

CHKK
ちゃっ
SWISH
スッ
TEK
SHH
SHKK...

!!
BMF!

SNAG!
SWISH
DON'T MOVE!!
ZSH...

TELL ME, NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
...WHERE'S EKA TOKURA, THE GIRL YOU ABDUCTED?!
HEH HEH...

ANSWER ME!!
---?!
WHA...?!

LET ME DO THIS, MAJOR!
HE'S PLAYING GAMES WITH US!!
WHAT THE HELL...?
UNIT 24, COME IN!!
BVVT...
ZZPP...
SOUNDS LIKE HE SCREWED THE POOCH.
MMH...
WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH UNIT 36...

NOW HE'S SCARED, ALL OF A SUDDEN...
WHAT'S THAT?
A WOMAN'S VOICE?!
RRRM!!
MMFH...
DO WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO...
SHIVER...
SHIVER...
SHIVER...

LOOK OUT, MAJOR!!
A GREN-ADE?!
TUG
HOP
PING!

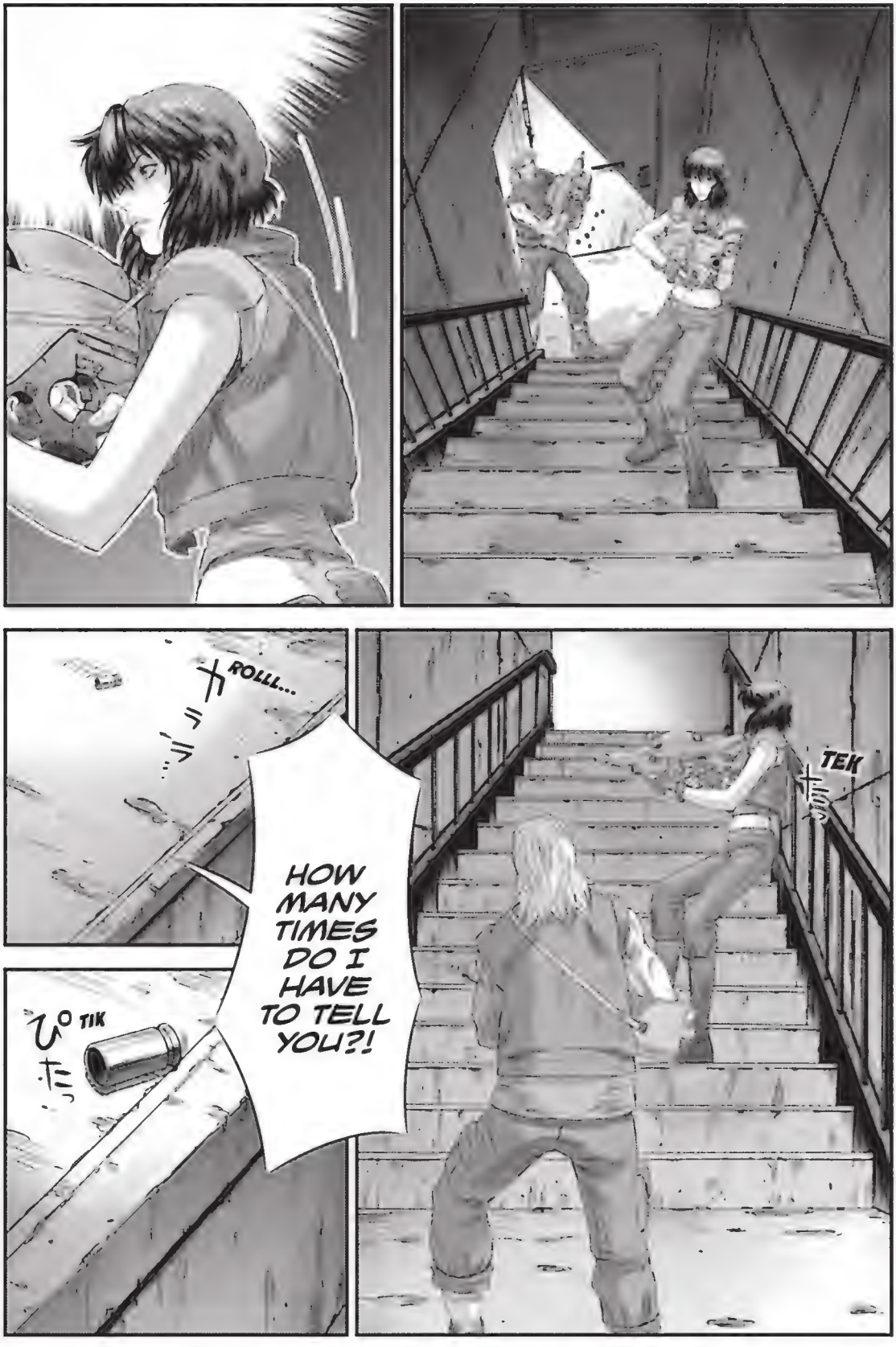
GLORY BE...
...TO THE BRIGADE!!
KSH
ZZZSSSHH

DWOOM!
!!
AAAGH!!
PTEW!
KPING!
CLANK!
CLANG!
ZZZSSHHH

EEYAAAH!!
PTANG!
CLACK!
KYUM!
CLACK!
KTING!
YOU OKAY, MAJOR?!
TEPP?
BARELY...
RUSTLE...

THESE GUYS ARE CREEPING ME OUT...
SUICIDE-BOMBING...
tek
IS IT THE WOMAN OVER THE RADIO?
WHO COULD BE LEADING THESE EXTREMISTS?
PAM!

THE CONTROL TOWER?!
FROM ABOVE...
A GUN-SHOT...?
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
ALL RIGHT!!
LET'S GET MOVING!
PAUSE...

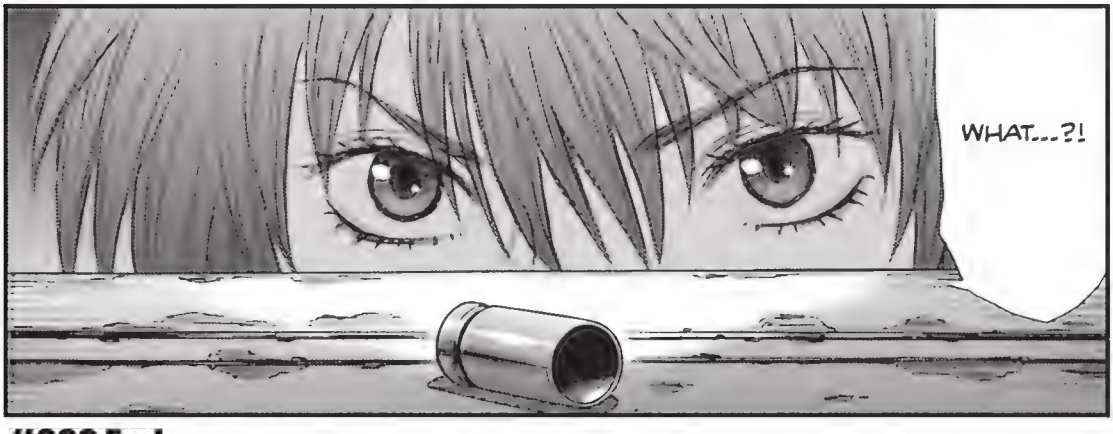

ROLL...
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
TIK
TEK

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE WOMAN ON THE RADIO.
YES...
MAJOR!
THAT VOICE...
EVERY-THING OKAY, BATÓ?
ONLINE
ONLINE
PROTECTION LEVEL-7
REPORT FILE LEVEL-3
CAUTION
MAJOR!
SHWIM
LEVEL-3
DOES THAT MEAN SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU GUYS?
YEAH, WE'RE FINE!
SYSTEMLEVEL-4

ONLINE
ONLINE
ONLINE
PROTECTION LEVEL-7
REPORT FILE LEVEL-3
LIVE
SHK
YOU SAID IT...
THESE PEOPLE ARE REAL CREEPY.
I SUPPOSE.
THE ONLY THING IS, THEY PUMPED HIM WITH SOME VIRUS OR SOMETHING, AND HIS BRAIN'S A BIT FRIED...
SAKAKIBARA HERE IS THE ONLY SST SURVIVOR! WE'VE GOT HIM; HE'LL BE FINE.
YOU HEAD BACK TO THE HELIPORT FIRST.
SHK...
WE'RE ABOUT...
ALL RIGHT.
THAT'S WHY WE WERE ABLE TO CATCH HIM ON THE COMM, BUT GOT NO RESPONSE.

パチン
SNAP
...TO TAKE THEM ON!!
WAIT, MAJOR!
SOME-THING'S BUGGING ME!!
TEK

WHAT IS IT?
TIP
!!
IT SEEMS LIKE THE CAUSE OF SAKAKIBARA'S MADNESS...
...IS THE GIRL... EKA TOKURA.
WE'VE LOST TOUCH WITH UNITS 24 AND 36.
FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED AND REPORT!!
YES, MA'AM!!
I DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF, BUT...I FEEL LIKE THE LEADER OF THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...



#036 End

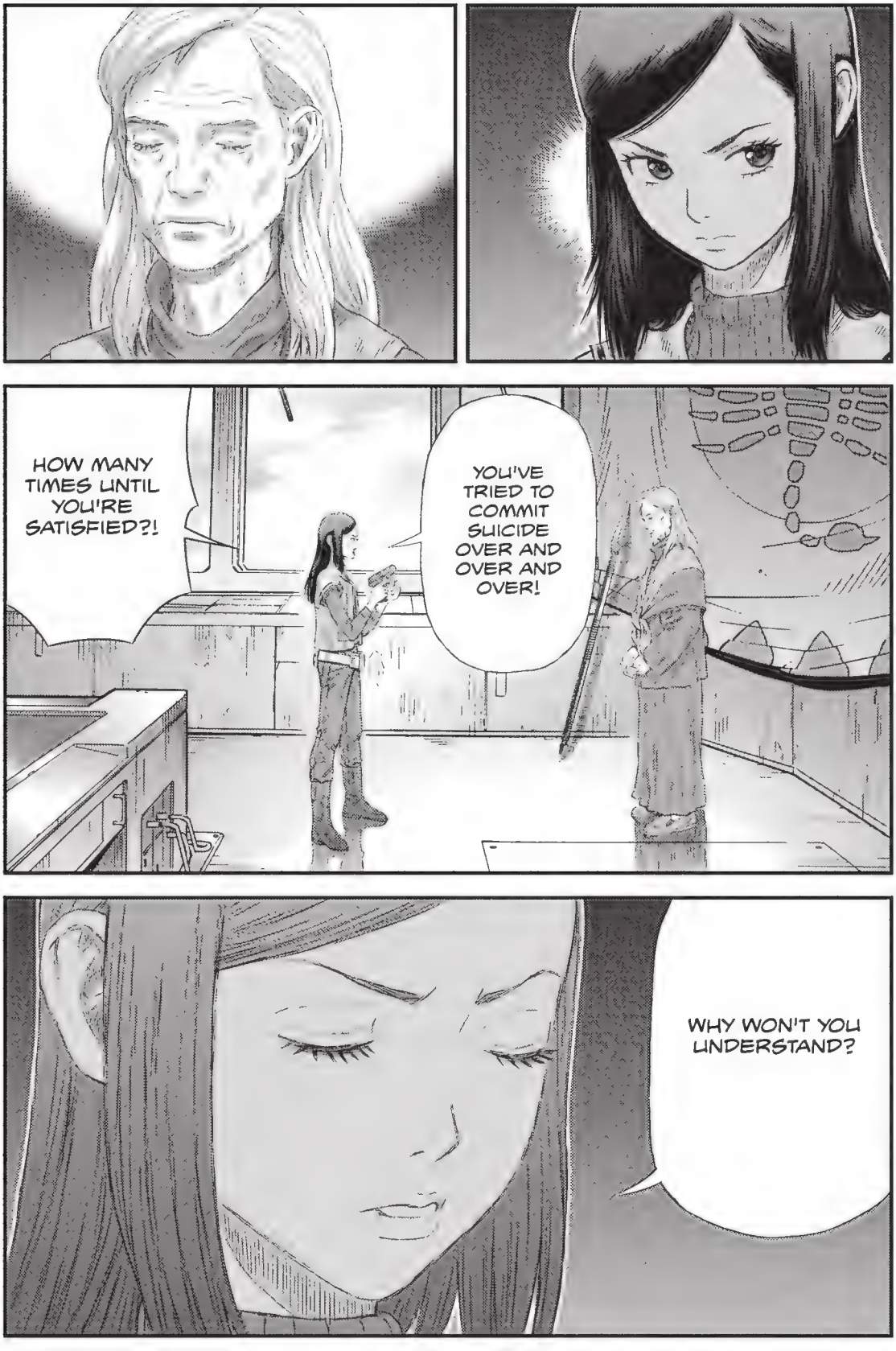
#037: Eka Tokura

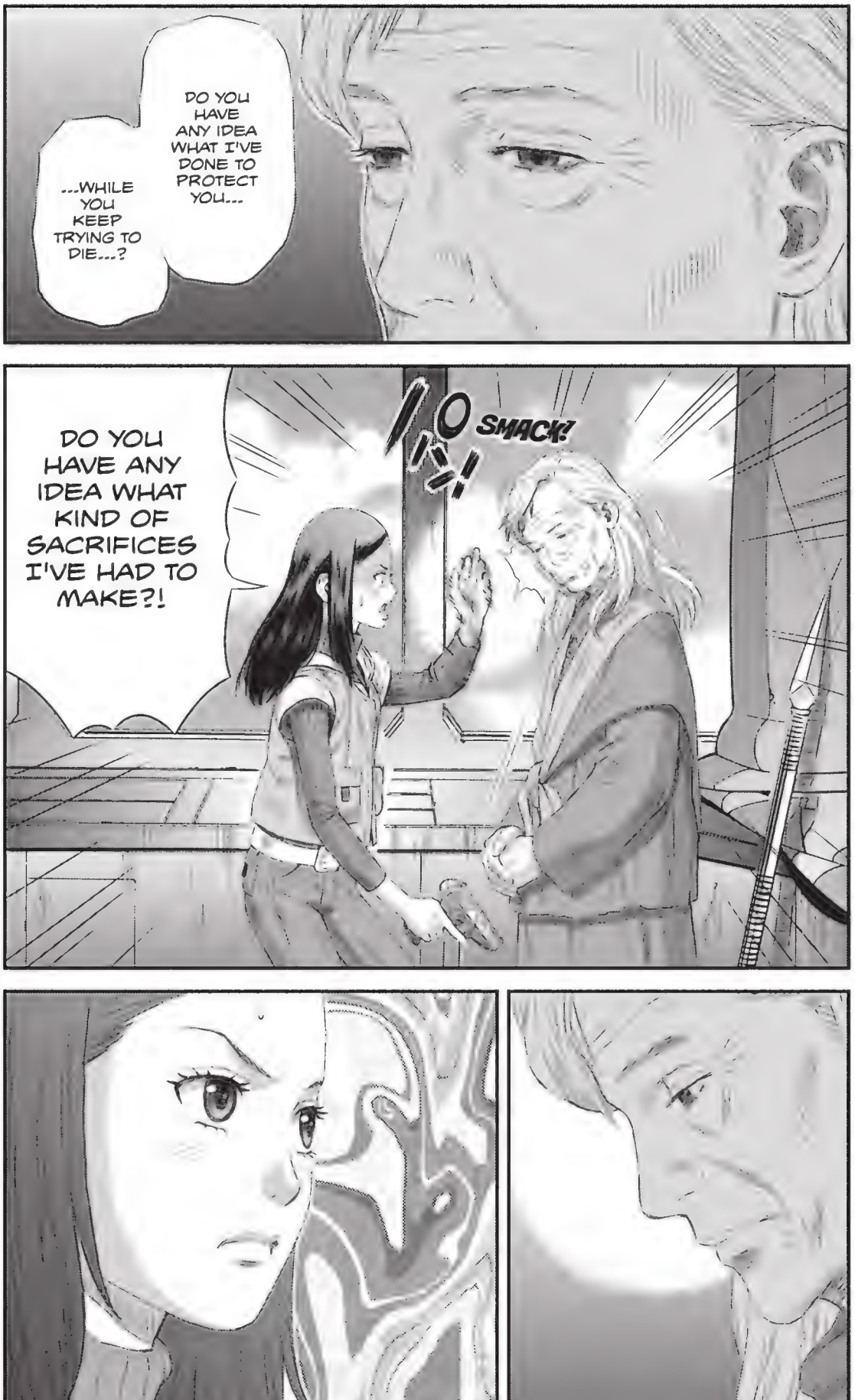
LEVEL-3
SOMETHING'S BUGGING ME!
MAJOR!
!!
IT SEEMS LIKE THE CAUSE OF SAKAKIBARA'S MADNESS...
...IS THE GIRL... EKA TOKURA.
WHAT IS IT?
ONLINE
ONLINE
PROTECTION LEVEL-7
REPORT FILE LEVEL-3
CAUTION
I DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF, BUT I FEEL LIKE THE LEADER OF THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
YES, MA'AM!!
REPORT BACK AT ONCE!
NOW GO!!

...MIGHT BE EKA TOKURA, HERSELF!
WHAT...?!

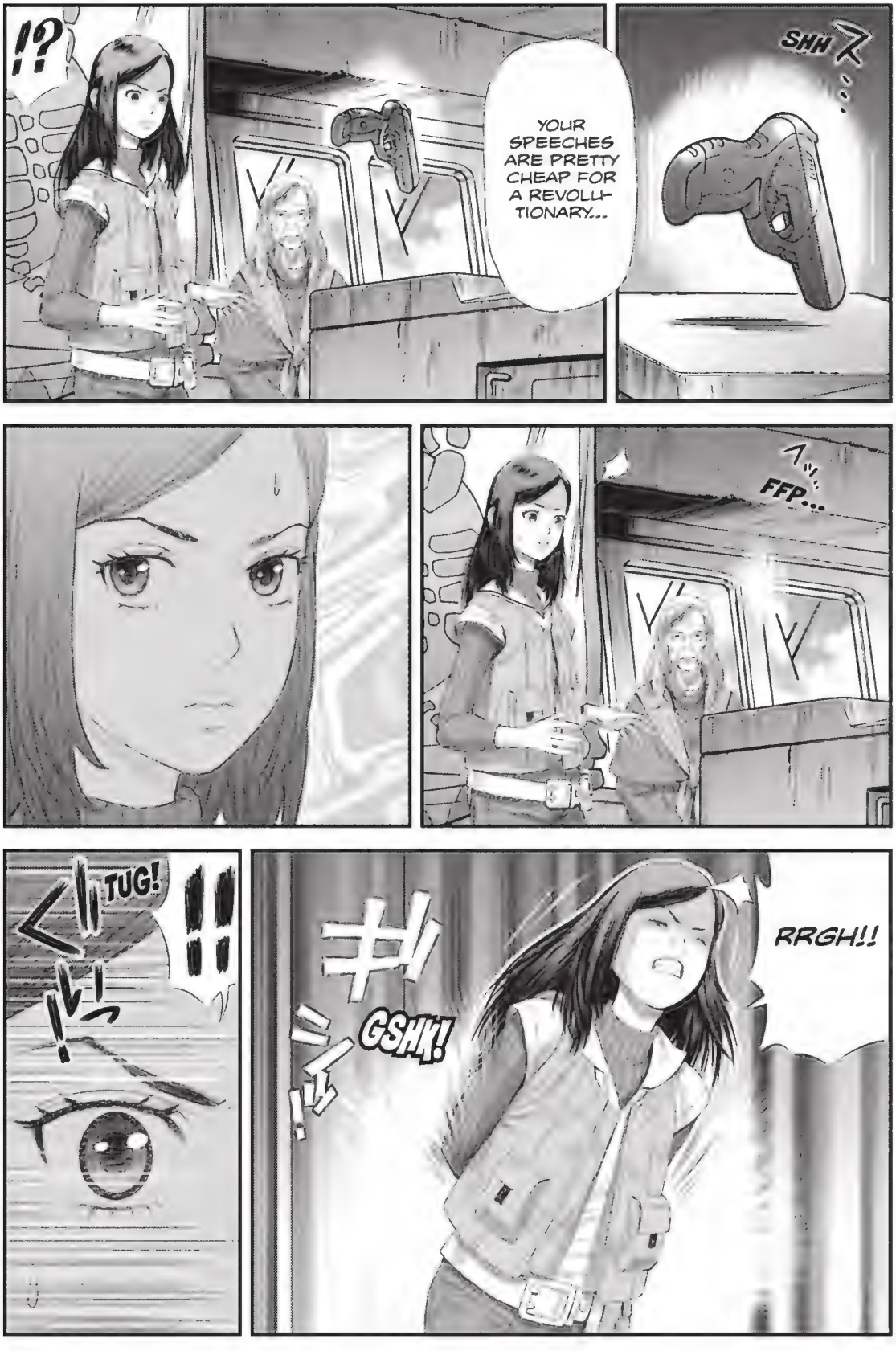
WE'LL KNOW IF WE CAN SEIZE THE GIRL.
EKA TOKURA WAS ABDUCTED! HOW CAN SHE BE THE LEADER OF THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE?!
BUT THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT, CAN IT?!
...BUT BE CAREFUL ALL THE SAME WHEN YOU JACK INTO EKA TOKURA!!
WELL, JUST IN CASE... I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU LOSING IN A CYBERMIND CONFLICT...
UNDER-STOOD...

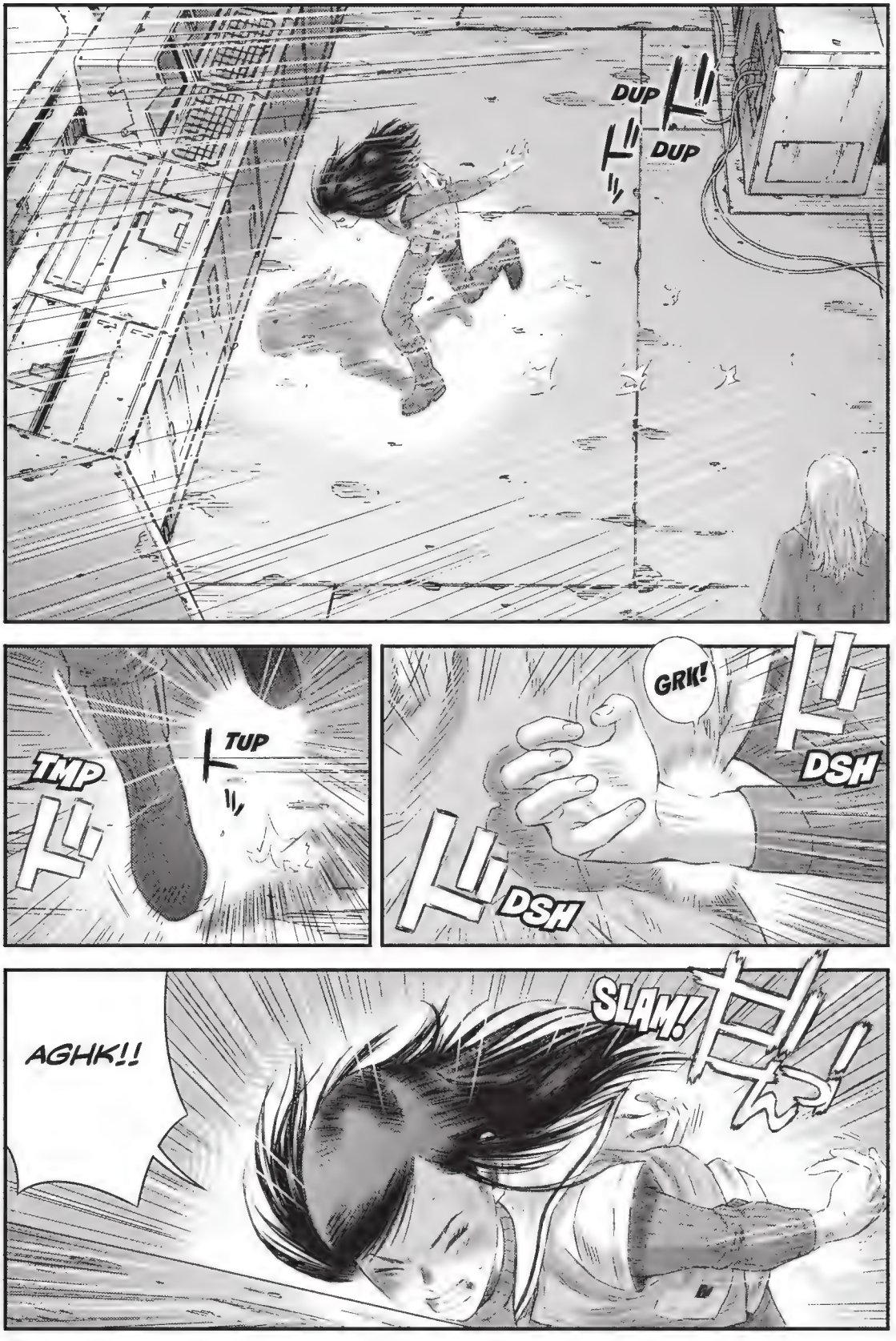
TELL ME...
TEK
TEK
TEK
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?


HOW MANY TIMES UNTIL YOU'RE SATISFIED?!
YOU'VE TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE OVER AND OVER AND OVER!
WHY WON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?


DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT I'VE DONE TO PROTECT YOU...
...WHILE YOU KEEP TRYING TO DIE...?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT KIND OF SACRIFICES I'VE HAD TO MAKE?!
SMACK!

IS THAT CLEAR?!
...YOU ARE FORBIDDEN TO LEAVE MY SIDE...
FROM NOW ON...
THUNK
JUST LIKE A BOSSY LITTLE PRINCESS.


!?
YOUR SPEECHES ARE PRETTY CHEAP FOR A REVOLUTIONARY...
SHH
FFP...
TUG!
GSHK!
RRGH!!

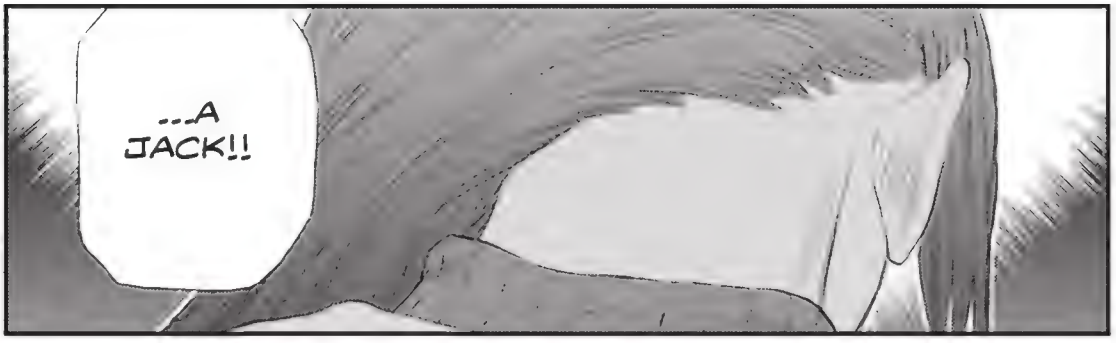

DUP
DUP
TMP
TUP
GRK!
DSH
DSH
AGHK!!
SLAM!

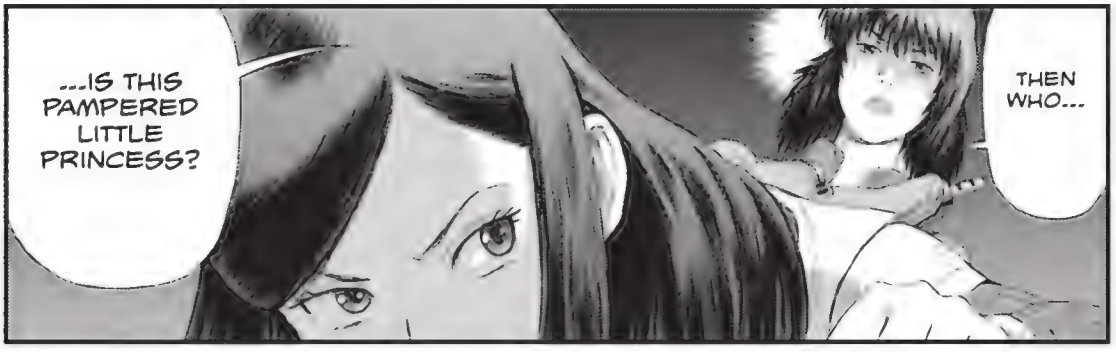
FREEZE!!
POLICE!
ZZT...
BSH!
SHIT! OPTICAL CAMO?!
UMMM...

...AND ESCAPE THIS PLACE ALIVE?!
YOU THINK YOU CAN DO THIS TO ME...
ZZZIP
BUT ONCE I'M JACKED IN, IT SHOULD BE PRETTY EASY TO FIND OUT...
...WHY YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED IN APPEARANCE IN 16 YEARS.
WELL, EKA TOKURA, YOU SEEM TO HAVE A HIGH OPINION OF YOURSELF...
TIK
SWISH...
HAH...
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!

WHAT...?!
!
THERE'S... NO JACK!!
HUH?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MAJOR?

I THOUGHT EKA TOKURA...
...MADE THAT BIG DEAL ABOUT SHOWING OFF HER FATHER'S COMPANY'S CUTTING-EDGE TECH 16 YEARS AGO...
...BY GETTING CYBERIZED, HERSELF!!
YES...
BUT THIS GIRL...
...DOESN'T HAVE...


...A JACK!!

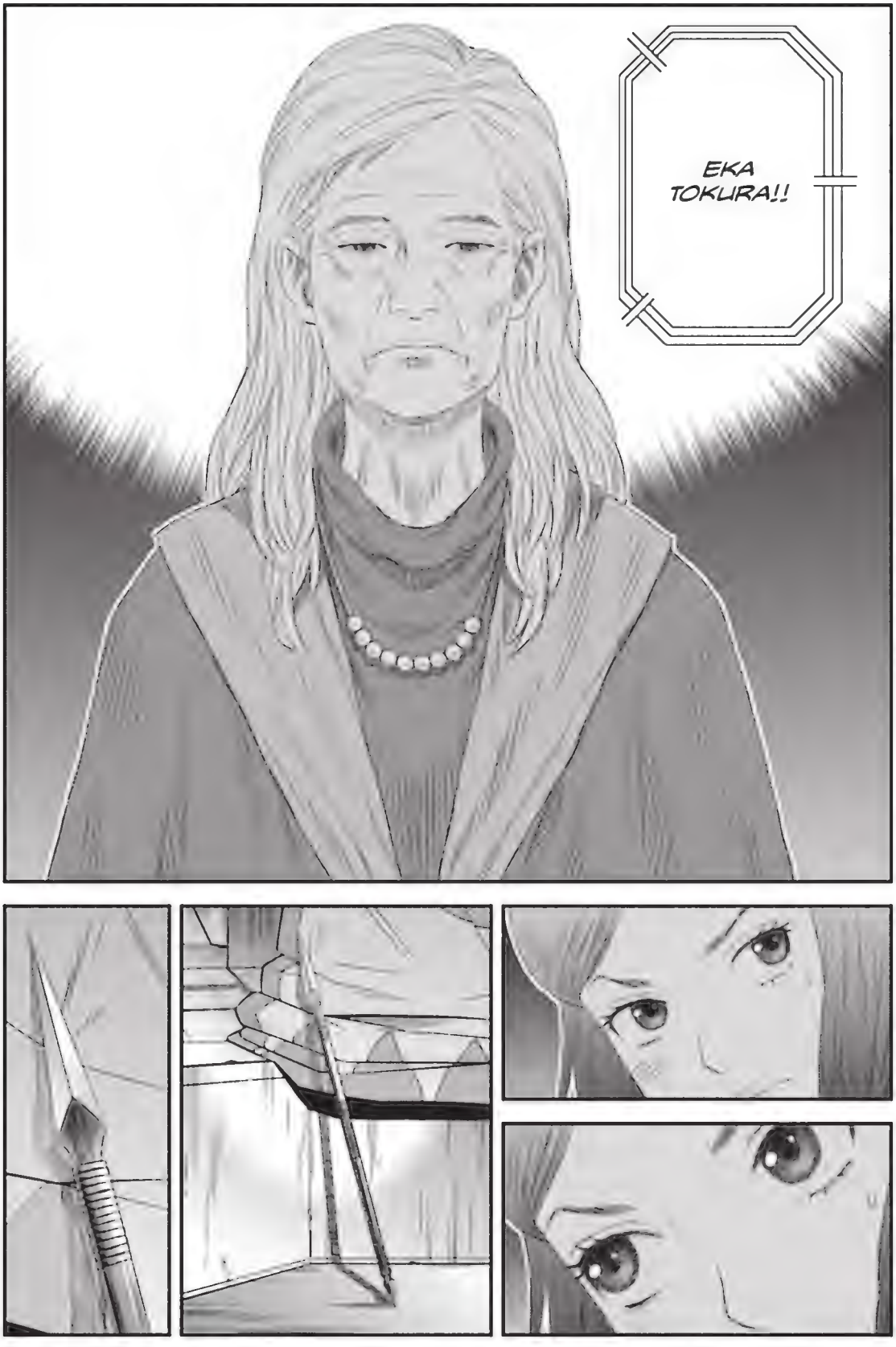

...IS THIS PAMPERED LITTLE PRINCESS?
THEN WHO...

SHE IS NOT EKA...

WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

!?
...?

...
WAIT A MINUTE!!
W...
ARE YOU SAYING...?!
MAJOR!
COULD THIS OLD LADY BE...?
YES, I SUSPECT YOU'RE RIGHT...

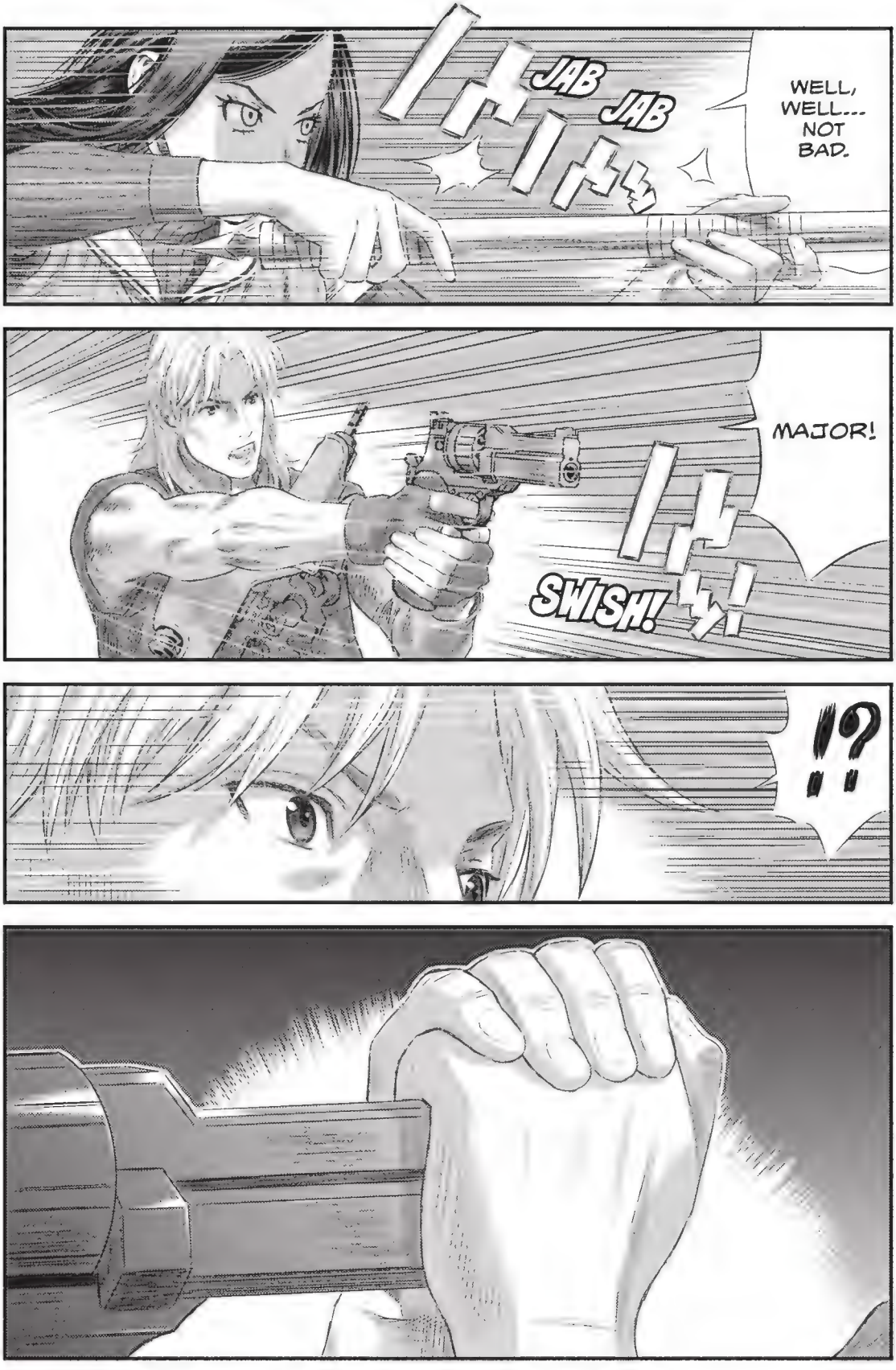

EKA
TOKURA!!

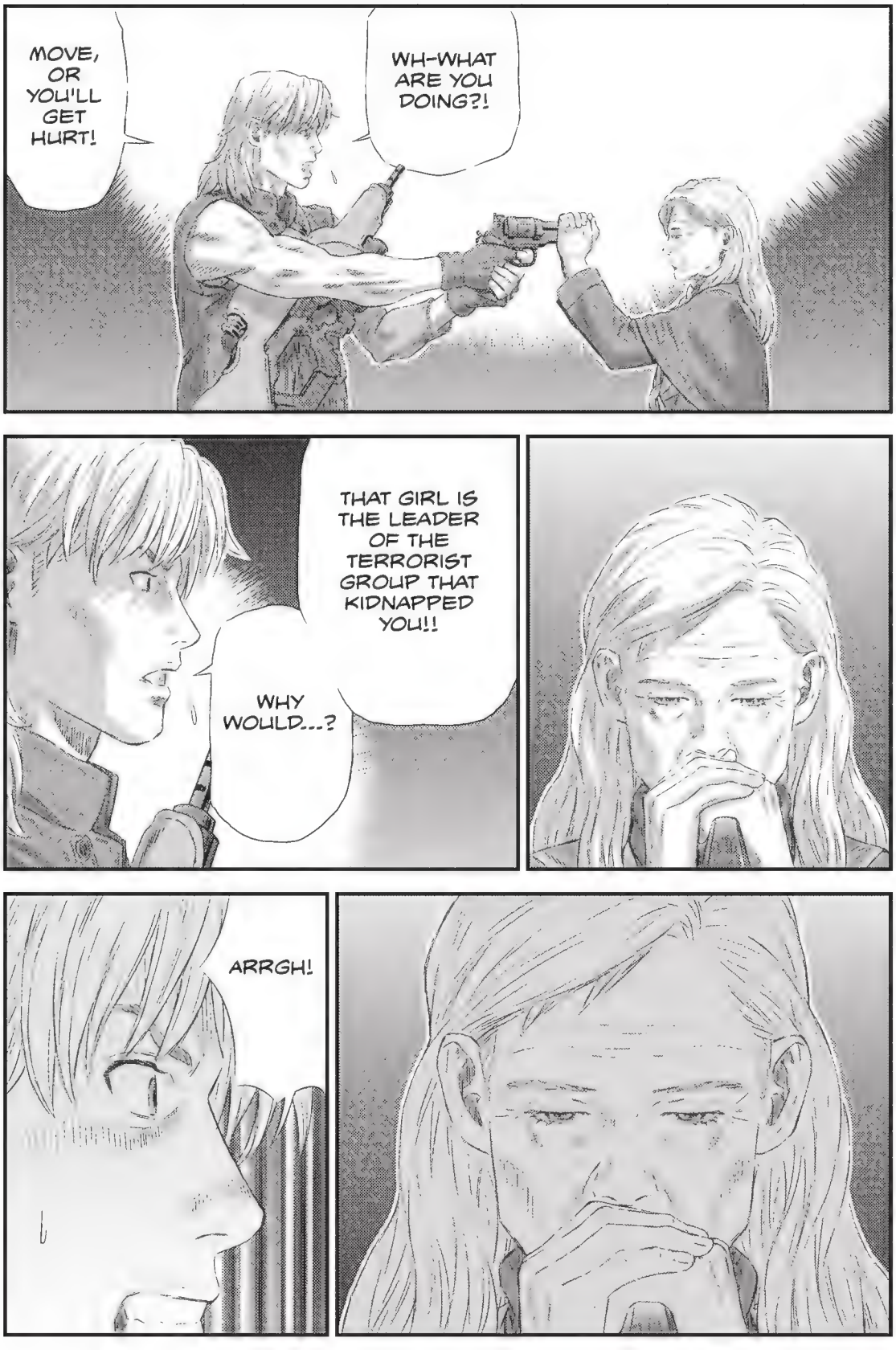
DAMN!
SLIP!
BABASH!
HOP

WHAP!
TSK!
BSH!
swish
swish
SNAK!
SNAG!

DSHH!
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
DMM
DMM
DMM
DMM
TUP
DWOOSH!
SHK!

HAH!
BISH!
RRGH!
BAP
BAP
BAP
TUP
TUP
TUP
ZWIP!
ZWIP!
SHE'S SO FAST!!


JAB JAB
WELL, WELL... NOT BAD.
MAJOR!
SWISH!
!?


MOVE, OR YOU'LL GET HURT!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THAT GIRL IS THE LEADER OF THE TERRORIST GROUP THAT KIDNAPPED YOU!!
WHY WOULD...?
ARRGH!

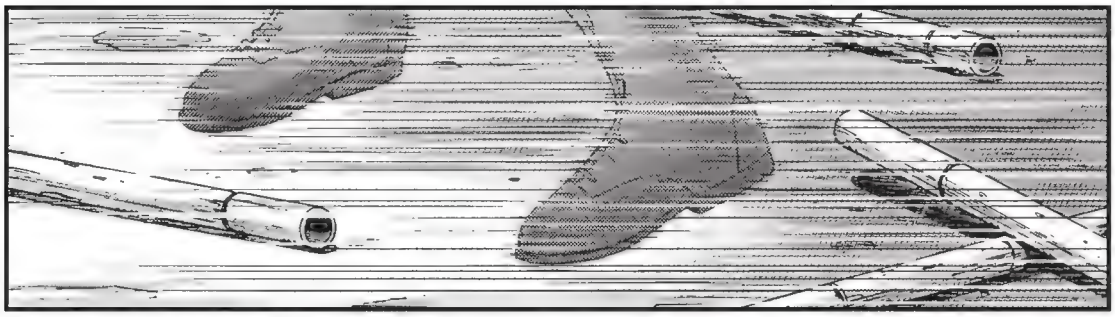
ZIP
ZIP
ZIP
GAKK!

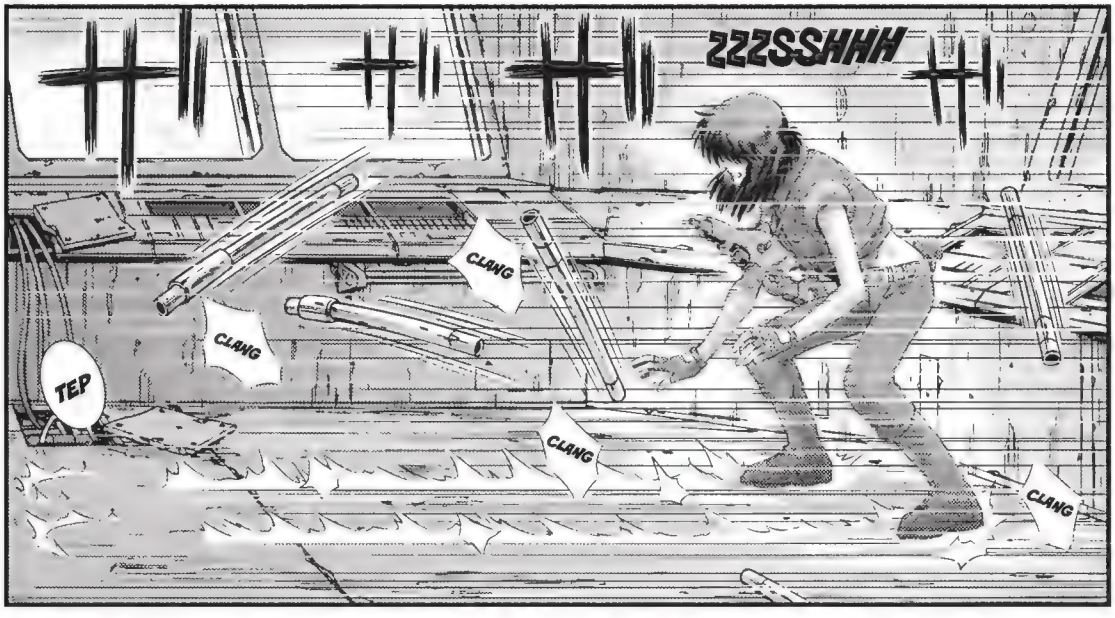
SHAA!
RRGH!
SHH...
!

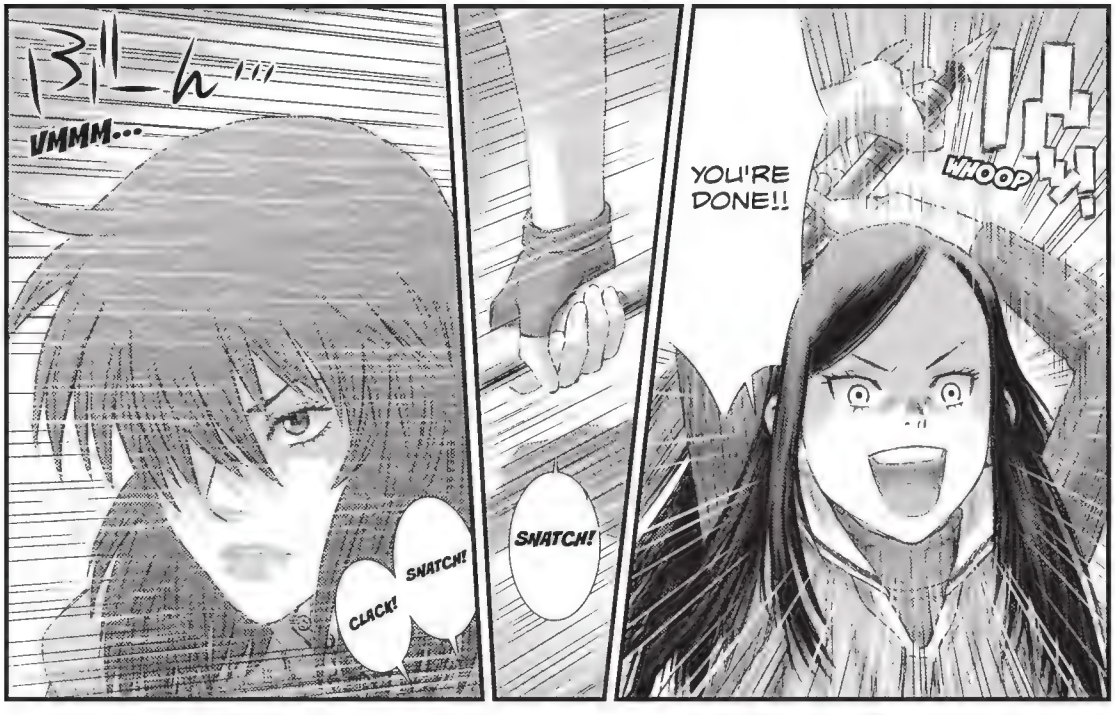
---!!
BELOW!!
SWOOSH!

SHIT!
DSH
SHP...
WHAT?!

ZWIP!
GANK!
HRRG!
DSH
DSH
DSH
swish
swish
swish

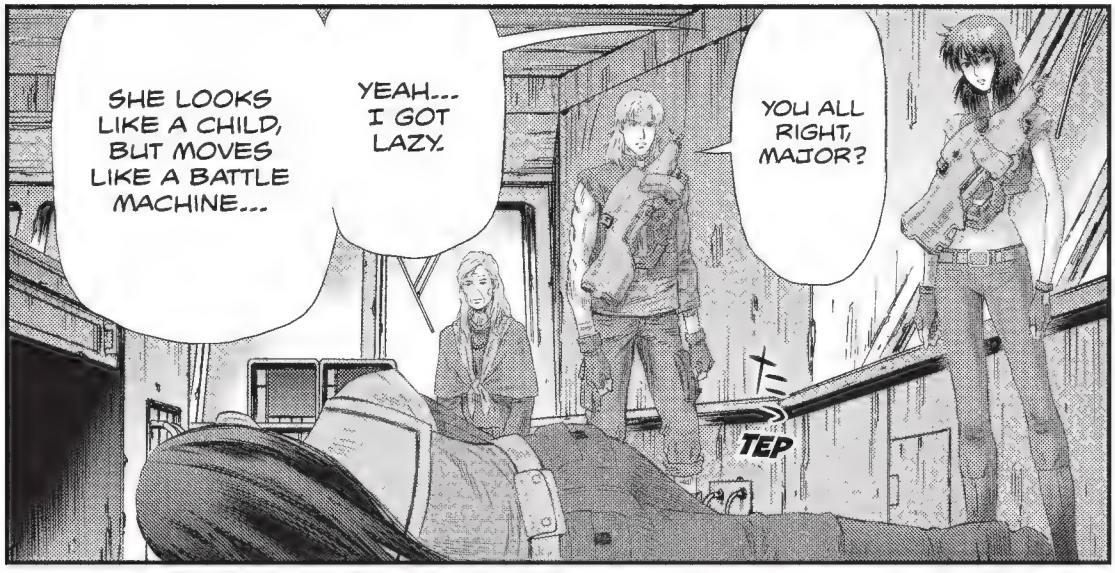


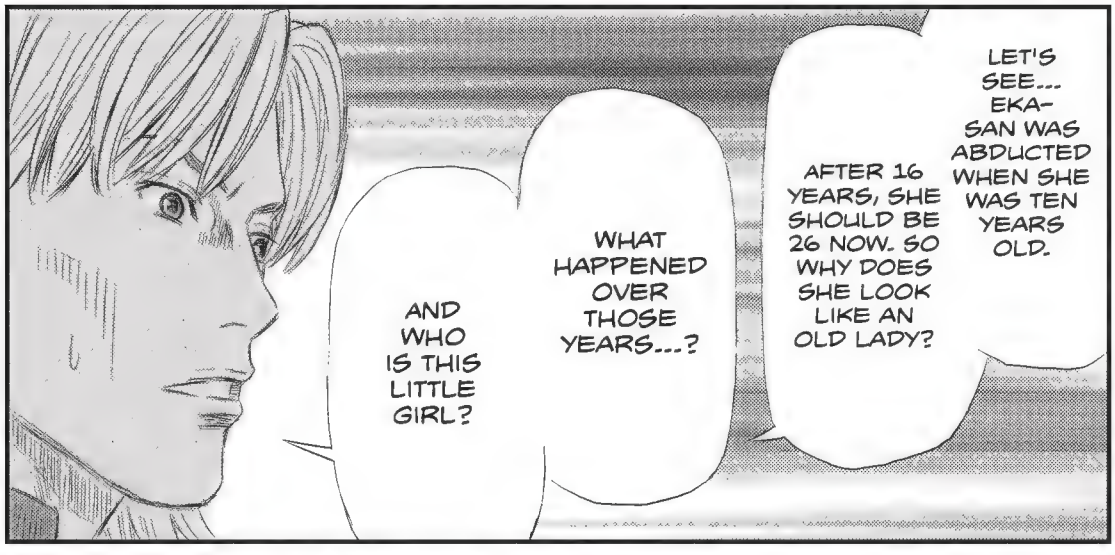

ZZZSSHHH
TEP
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG


BLAH!!!
UMMM...
CLACK!
SNATCH!
SNATCH!
YOU'RE DONE!!
WHOOP

!
FFT...
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
...BUT IT WON'T BE THAT EASY AGAIN!!
YOU CAUGHT ME UNAWARES LAST TIME...
MORE OPTICAL CAMO!
ZWIP!
ZWIP!
ZWIP!

HNG!
CLANK!
CLANK!
CLANK!
RRGH!!
THWAM!
SIGH...
FWUMP


YOU ALL RIGHT, MAJOR?
YEAH... I GOT LAZY.
SHE LOOKS LIKE A CHILD, BUT MOVES LIKE A BATTLE MACHINE...
TEP


LET'S SEE... EKA-SAN WAS ABDUCTED WHEN SHE WAS TEN YEARS OLD.
AFTER 16 YEARS, SHE SHOULD BE 26 NOW. SO WHY DOES SHE LOOK LIKE AN OLD LADY?
WHAT HAPPENED OVER THOSE YEARS...?
AND WHO IS THIS LITTLE GIRL?

WE CAN SOLVE MYSTERIES LATER...
FIRST COMES GETTING EKA TOKURA OUT OF HERE!!

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
LET'S GET MOVING, EKA-SAN.
PLEASE...
...BRING THE GIRL, TOO...
HUH?
WOULD IT POSSIBLE TO BRING HER WITH US...?
WH- WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
WE CAN'T DO THAT!
SHE'S A DANGEROUS TERRORIST; WHO KNOWS IF SHE'LL ATTACK AGAIN?
...
PLEASE...

BRING HER WITH US...

WHY...?
WHY DO YOU SHED TEARS FOR THE SAKE OF THIS TERRORIST LEADER? YOU SHOULD HATE HER!

#037 End

#038: All-Out Offensive

PLEASE...
WOULD IT...
...BE POSSIBLE...
...TO BRING HER WITH US?

WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO BRING HER SO BADLY, YOU'D SHED TEARS OVER IT?!
SHE'S THE LEADER OF THE TERRORISTS WHO KIDNAPPED YOU 16 YEARS AGO AND SOMEHOW TURNED YOU INTO AN OLD WOMAN...
...AT JUST AGE 26.
...
...?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE HER BEHIND...

WHY?!
...THEN I'M STAYING HERE!
WHY?!
STATE YOUR REASONS!
PLEASE, I BEG YOU...

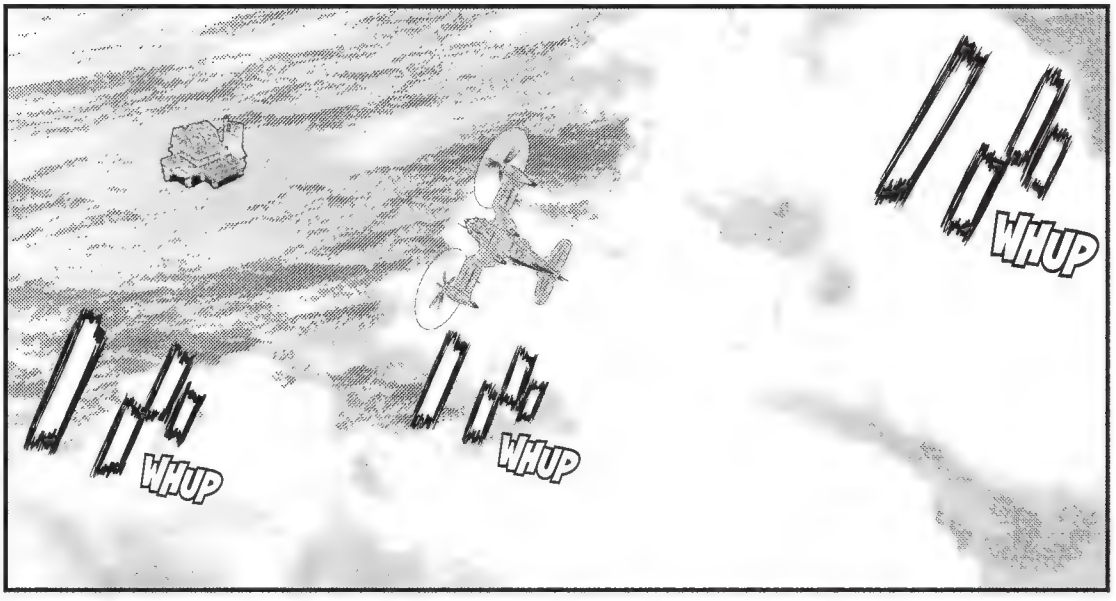
...
WELL...
...
BOOM!!
WHOA!!
!!

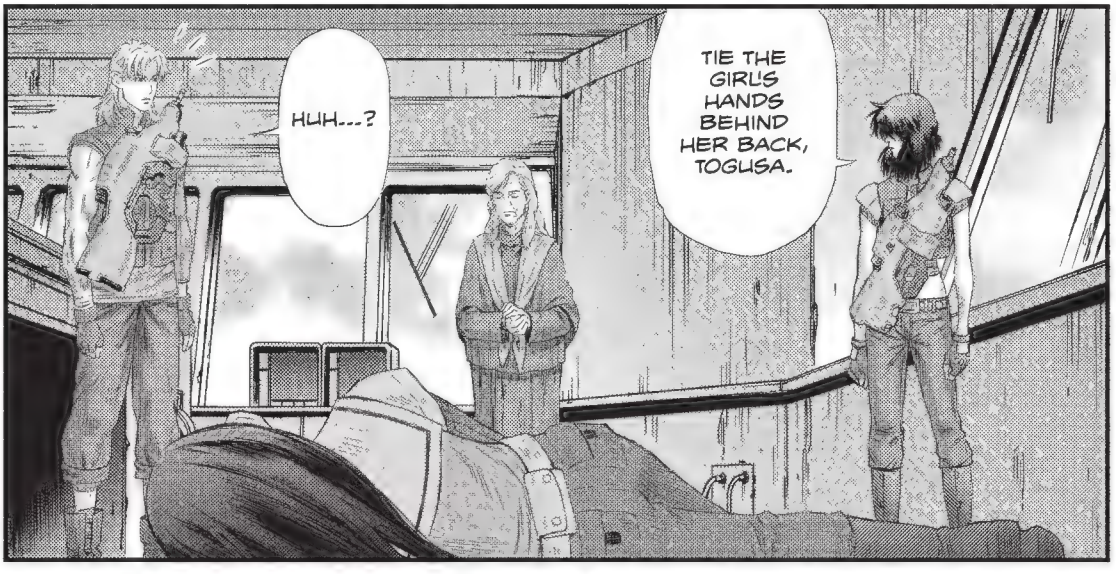
TACHIKOMA, GIVE ME A REPORT!!
DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH
WHAT HAPPENED?!
GAK
GAK
GAK
GAK
GAK
GAK
GAK
THE BRIGADE IS ATTACKING!!

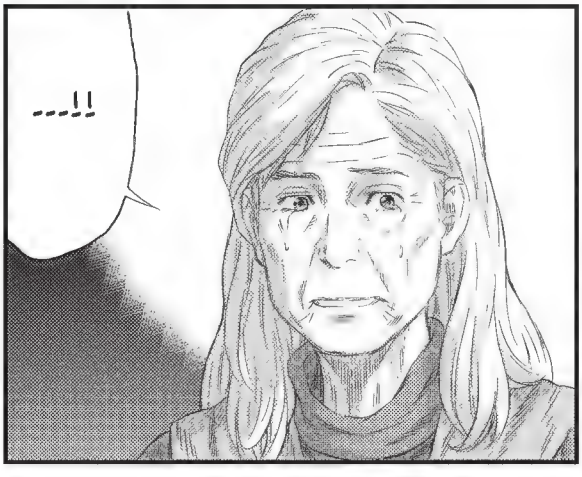
WHOOSH
WE'RE GETTING JAMMED, SO I CAN'T TELL THEIR LOCATION...
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
AAGH!
...BUT IT SEEMS LIKE BATÔ-SAN'S UNDER ATTACK BEHIND US, TOO!!

WE'VE GOT THE TARGET... WE NEED TO PULL OUT!!
TACHI-KOMA! GET OVER HERE AT ONCE!
TAKK
RRROGER!!
FSSSS
DOOSH!!

WHOA! THERE THEY GO!
!
BOOM!
whup
whup
whup
LOWER US DOWN!!
ALL RIGHT!
ROGER!!
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA


WHUP
WHUP
WHUP


HUH...?
TIE THE GIRL'S HANDS BEHIND HER BACK, TOGUSA.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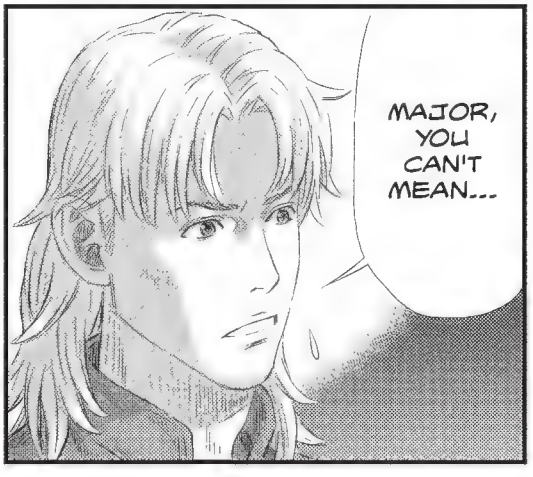
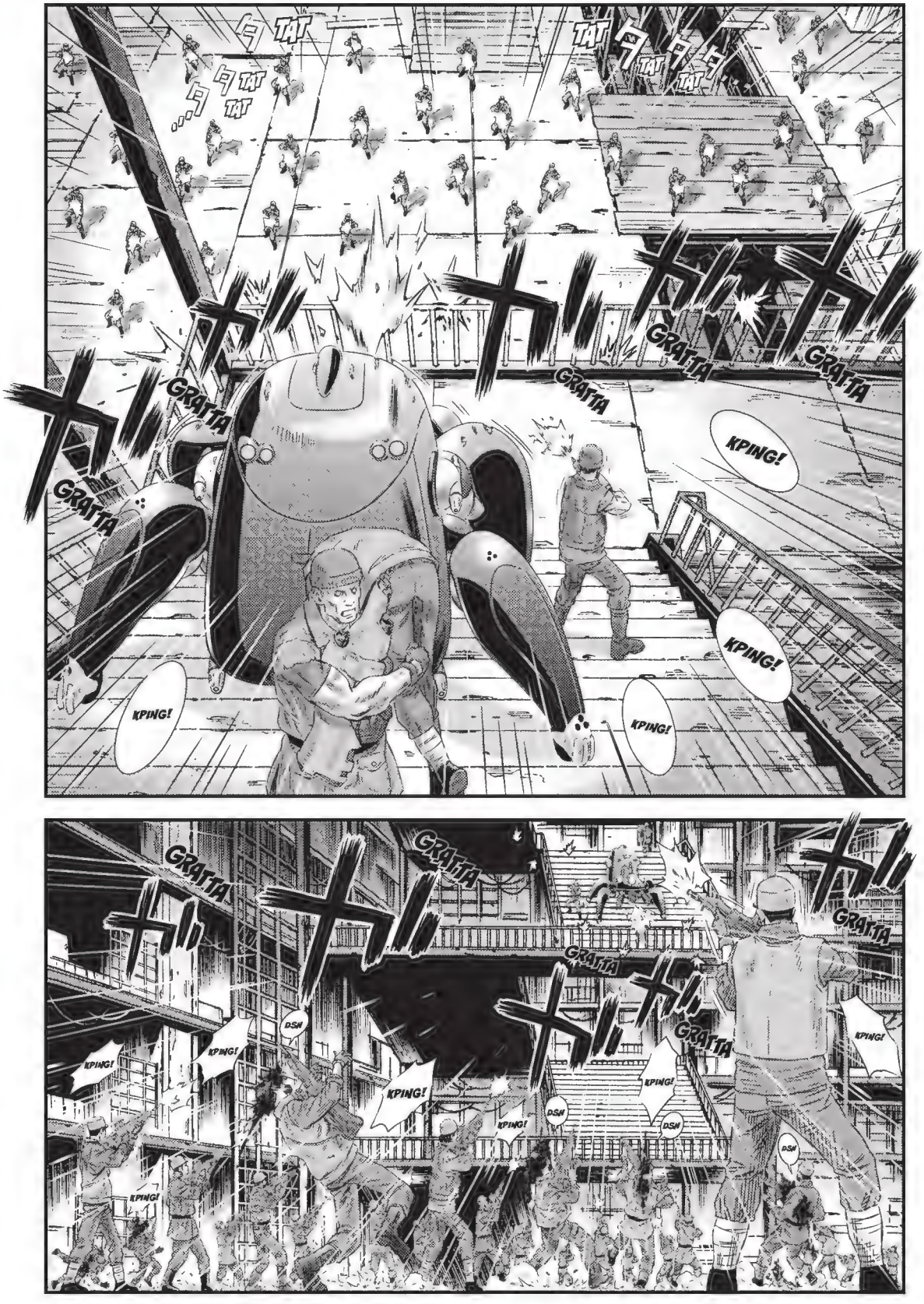
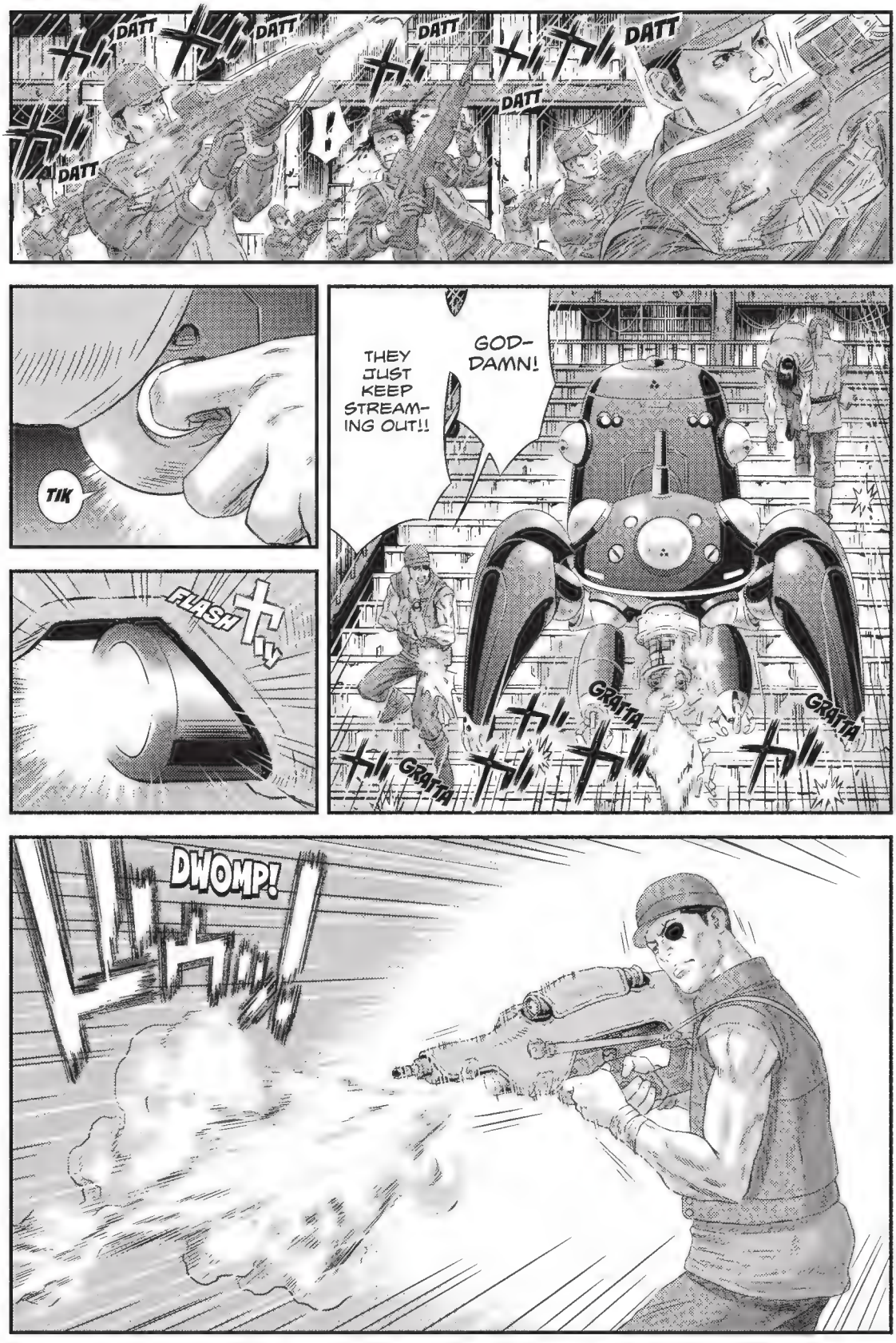
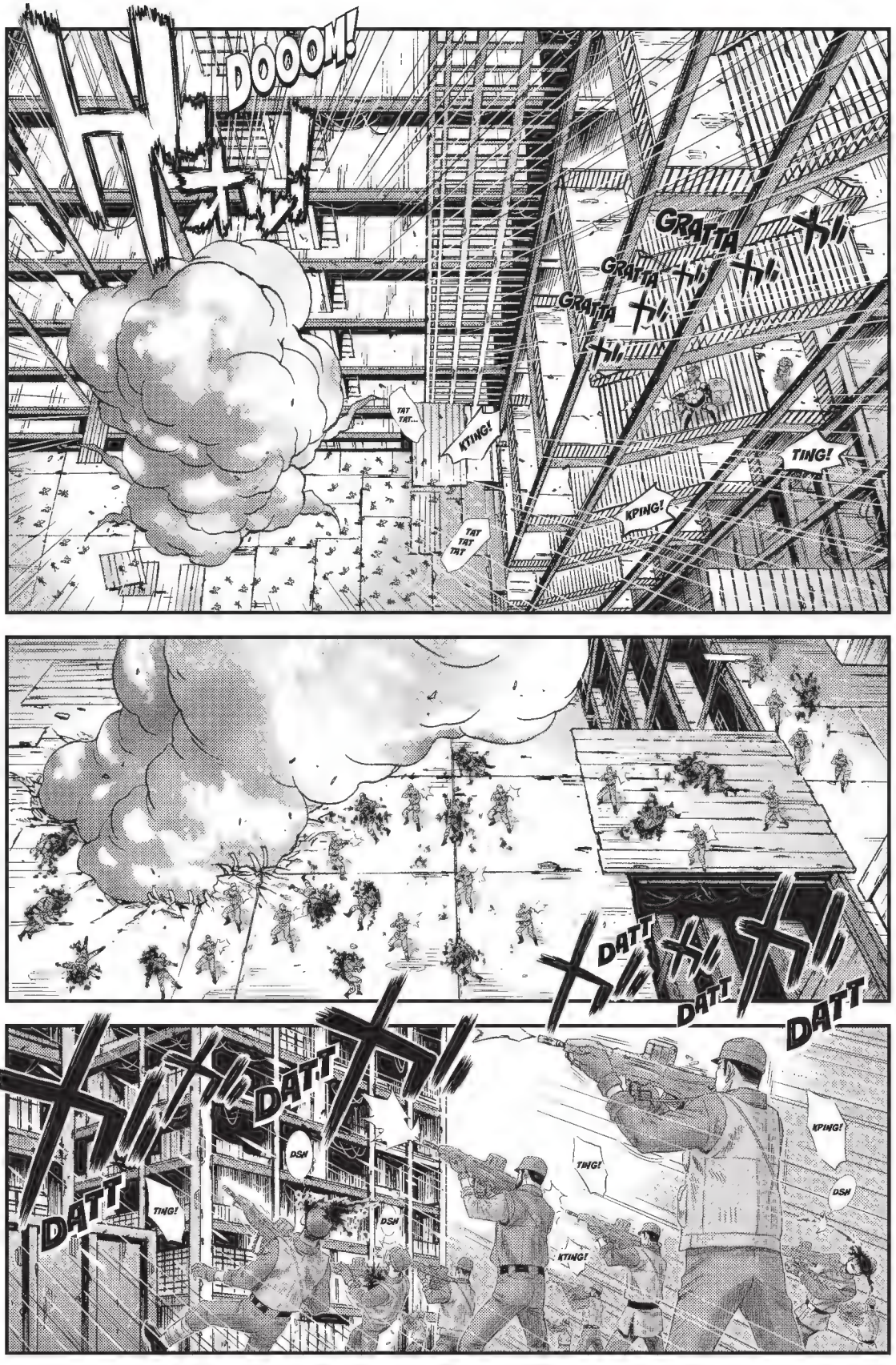

MAJOR, YOU CAN'T MEAN...

WE'RE TAKING HER WITH US!!
I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER WAY.
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
tek
tek
tek
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK


TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
KPING!
DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH


DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
!
TIK
FLASH
THEY JUST KEEP STREAM-ING OUT!!
GOD-DAMN!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
DWOMP!


DOOOM!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
TAT TAT...
KTING!
TAT TAT TAT
KPING!
TING!
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
DSH
DSH
TING!
TING!
KTING!
KPING!
DSH

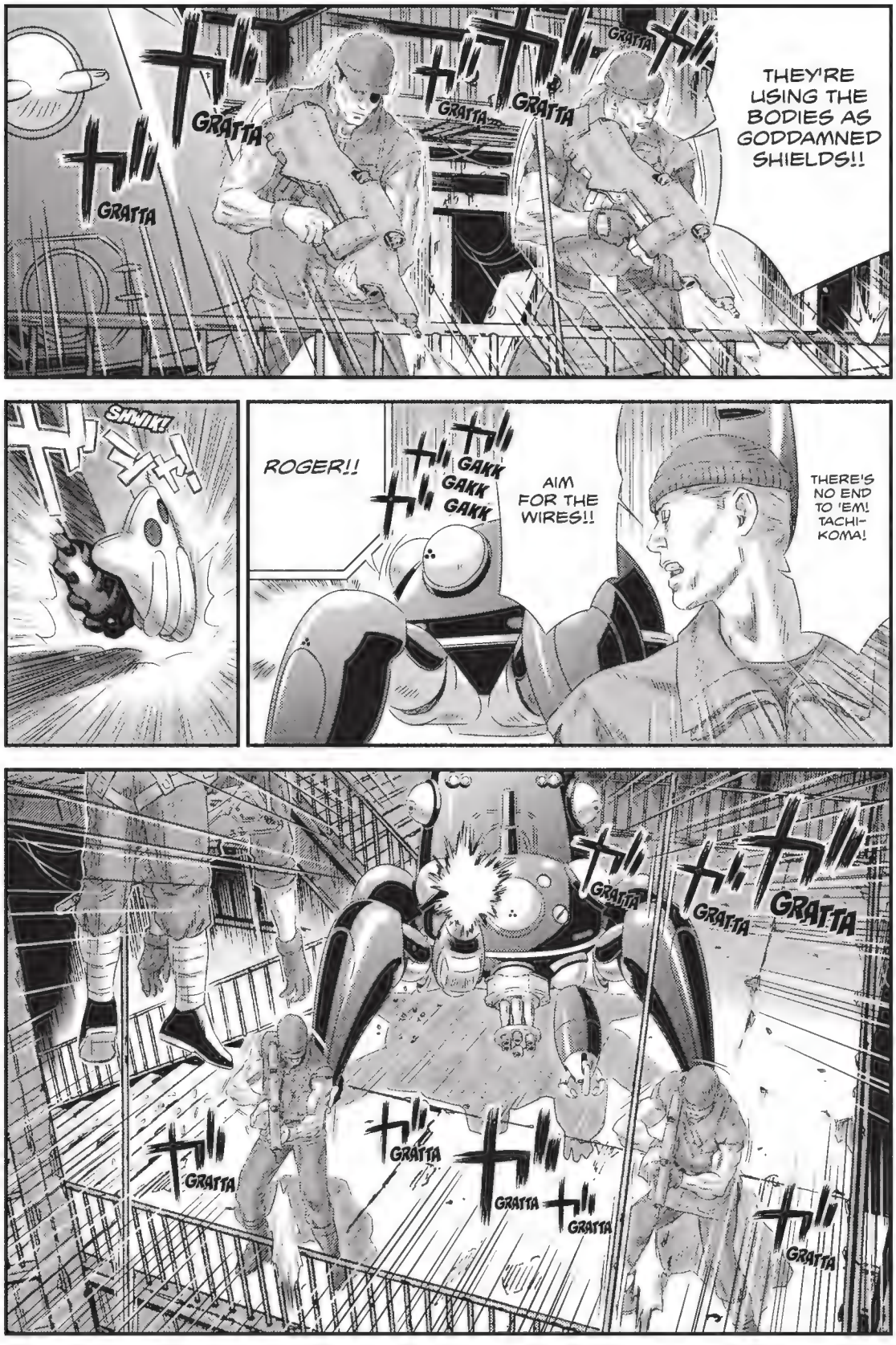
ROGER!!
PSHT
PING!
KTING!
TACHIKOMA! I NEED YOU TO HANG ONTO SAKAKIBARA!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
KPING!
GSHK...
GSHK...
!
WHAT THE...?
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
THUNK
GSHK
ZSH...
GSHK

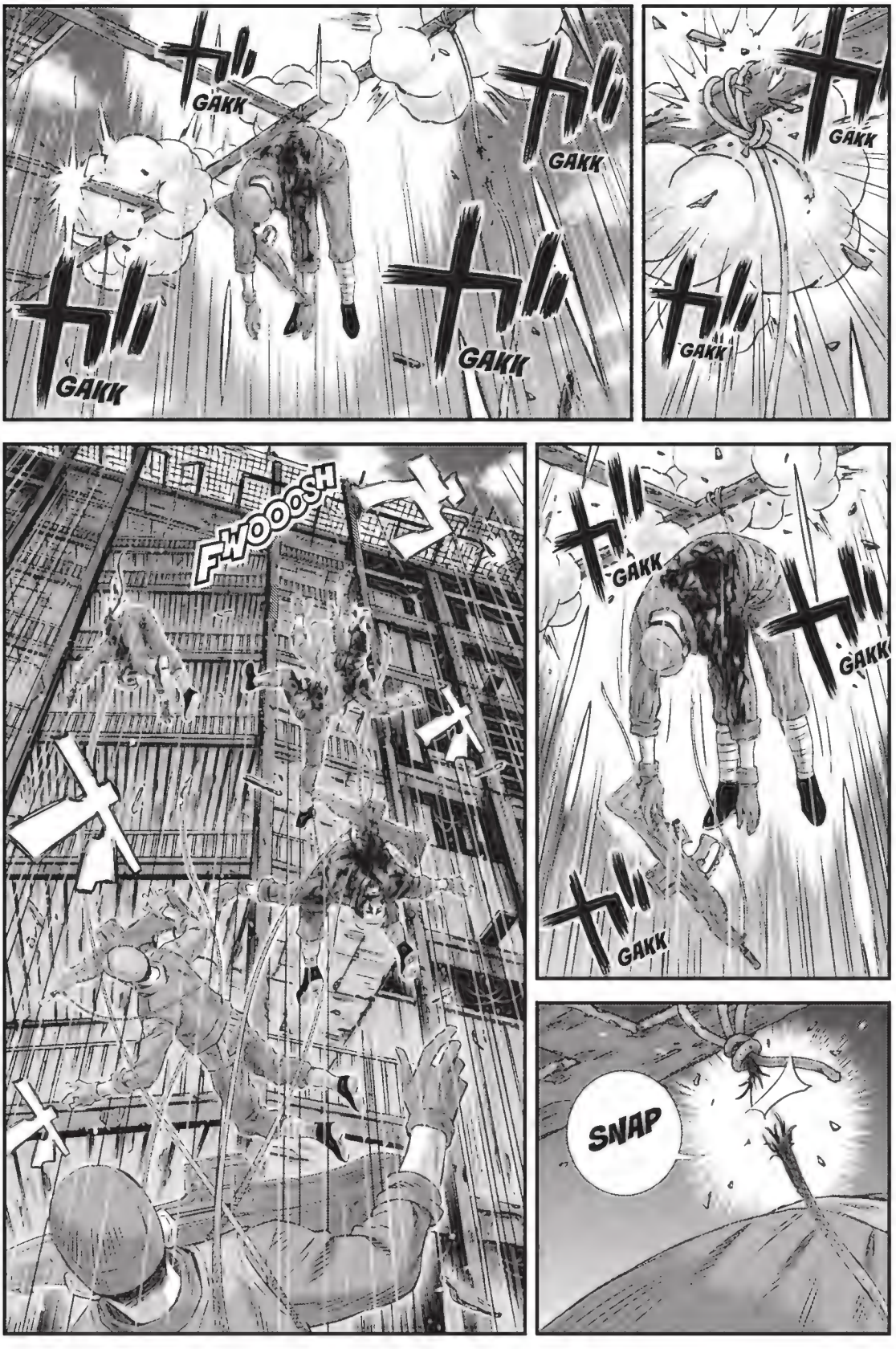
!
KURK...
KURK...
KURK...
DAT
DAT
DAT

GAK GAK
THEY'RE COMING UP THE ROPES FIRING, BATÔ!!
WHAT?!
TING!
TING!
TING!
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
DATT
KURK
KURK

GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
TING!
TING!
WELL, SHIT!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
DSH!
GRATTA
GRATTA
WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY THINKING?!
BUT THEY'RE NOT RAISIN' A SINGLE SCREAM...
THEY'RE PRACTICALLY BEGGING FOR US TO PICK THEM OFF LIKE THIS...

!!
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
GRAK
WHOA--?!
DUTT
DUTT


GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
THEY'RE USING THE BODIES AS GODDAMNED SHIELDS!!
SHWIK!
ROGER!!
GAKK GAKK GAKK
AIM FOR THE WIRES!!
THERE'S NO END TO 'EM! TACHI-KOMA!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA


GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
FWOOOSH
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
SNAP

* HIGH VELOCITY ROUNDS. SUITED FOR PIERCING.

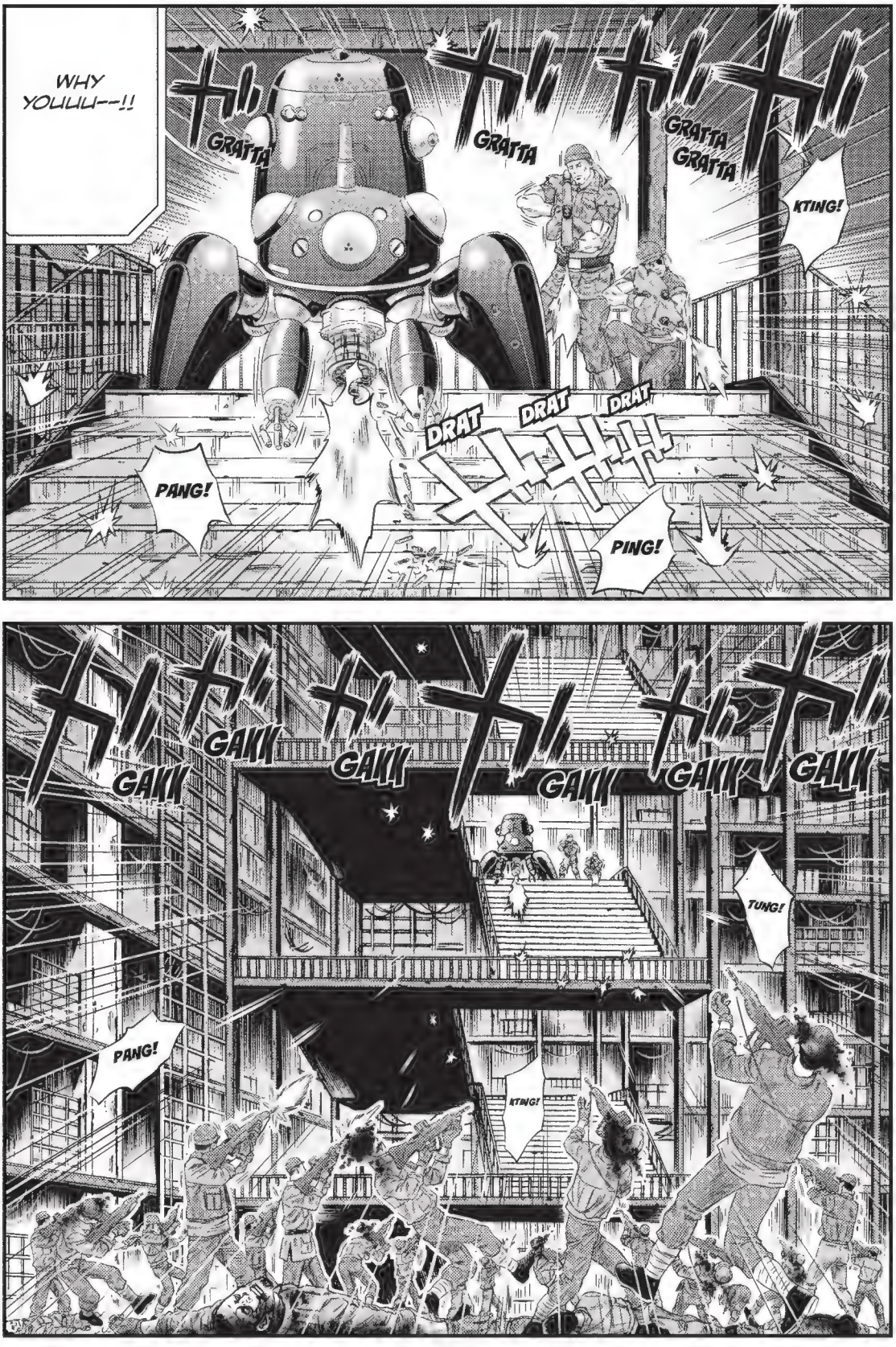
DAT DAT DAT
DAT
DAT
GRATTA GRATTA GRATTA
WHY YOUUUUU--!!
---!!
DSHH
DATT DATT DATT DATT
KTING!
TING!
BMP

DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH

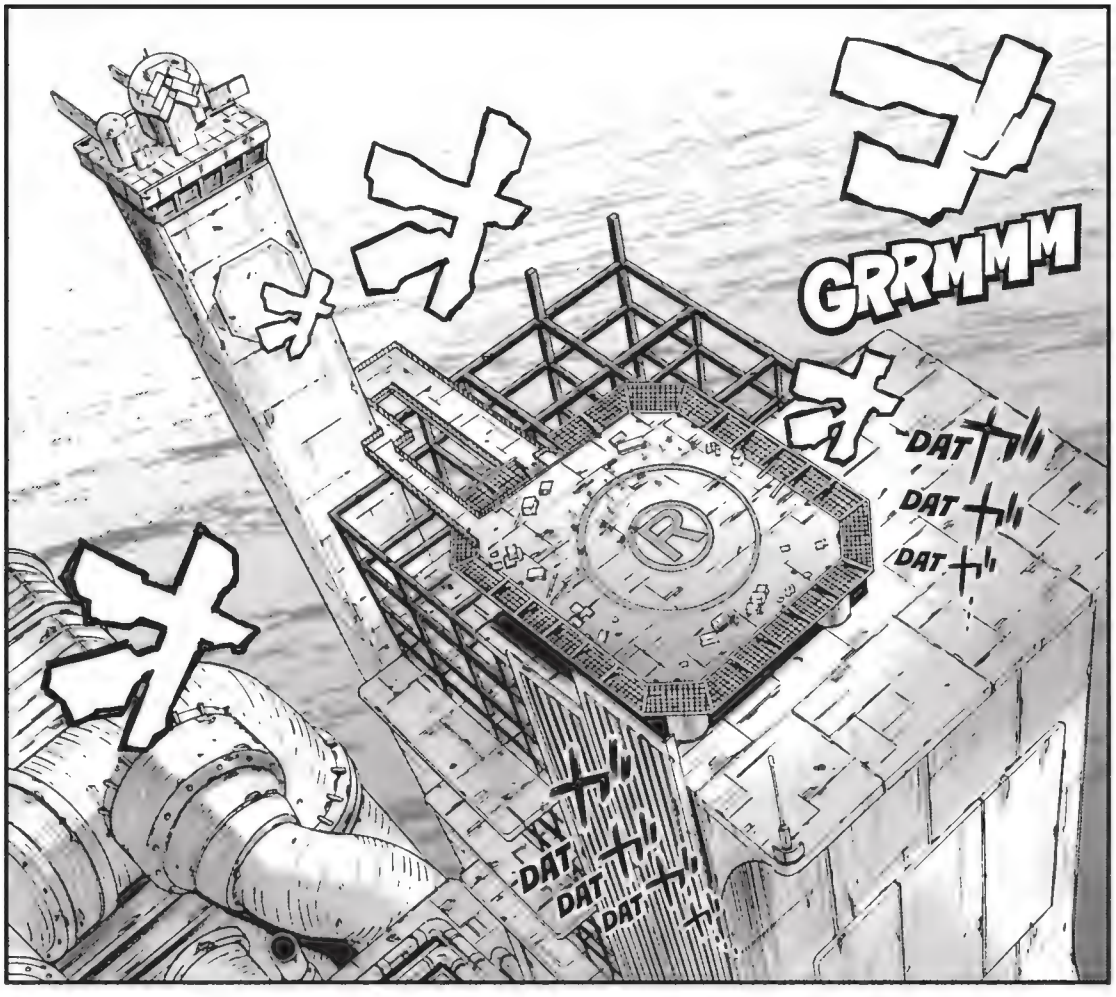
...BUT THEY AIN'T AFRAID OF DEATH IN THE LEAST!!
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS?! THEY'RE ALL FLESH AND BLOOD, NO PROSTHETICS AT ALL...

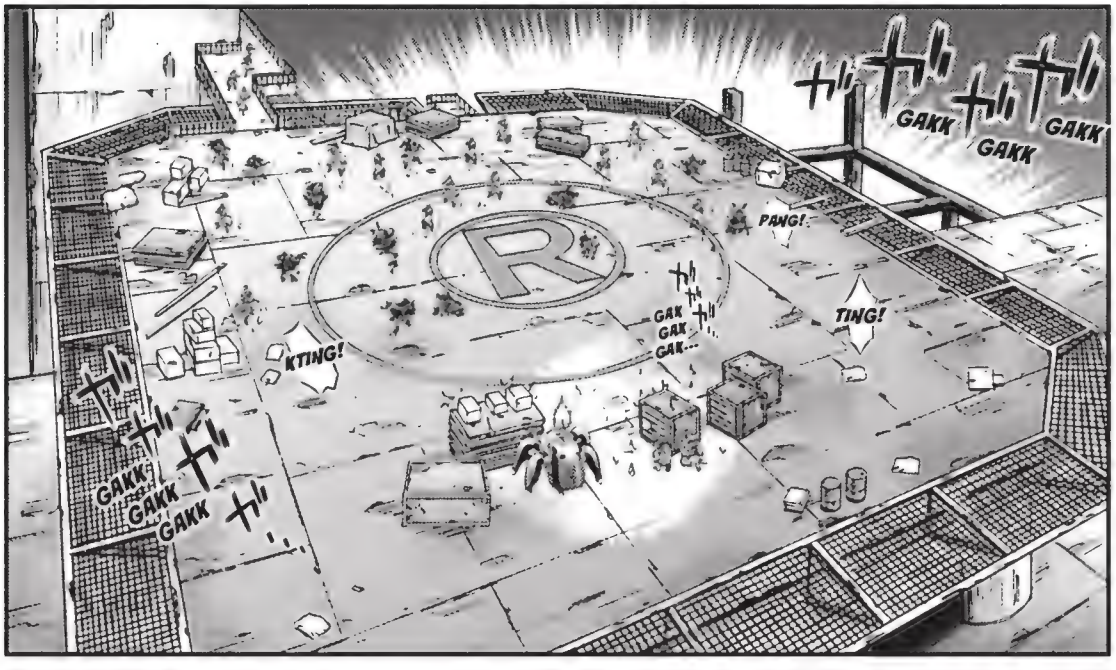
#038 End

#039: Immortal Soldiers


WHY YOUUU--!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRAT-TA
GRATTA
KTING!
DRAT
DRAT
DRAT
PANG!
PING!
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
TUNG!
PANG!
KTING!

DSHOO!
GAK
GAK
GAK
I'M GONNA RUN OUTTA AMMO IF THIS KEEPS UP!!
SHIT!
TUG
BOOM!
HURRY OVER TO THE HELI-PORT!!
GRRMM
NOW'S OUR CHANCE!!

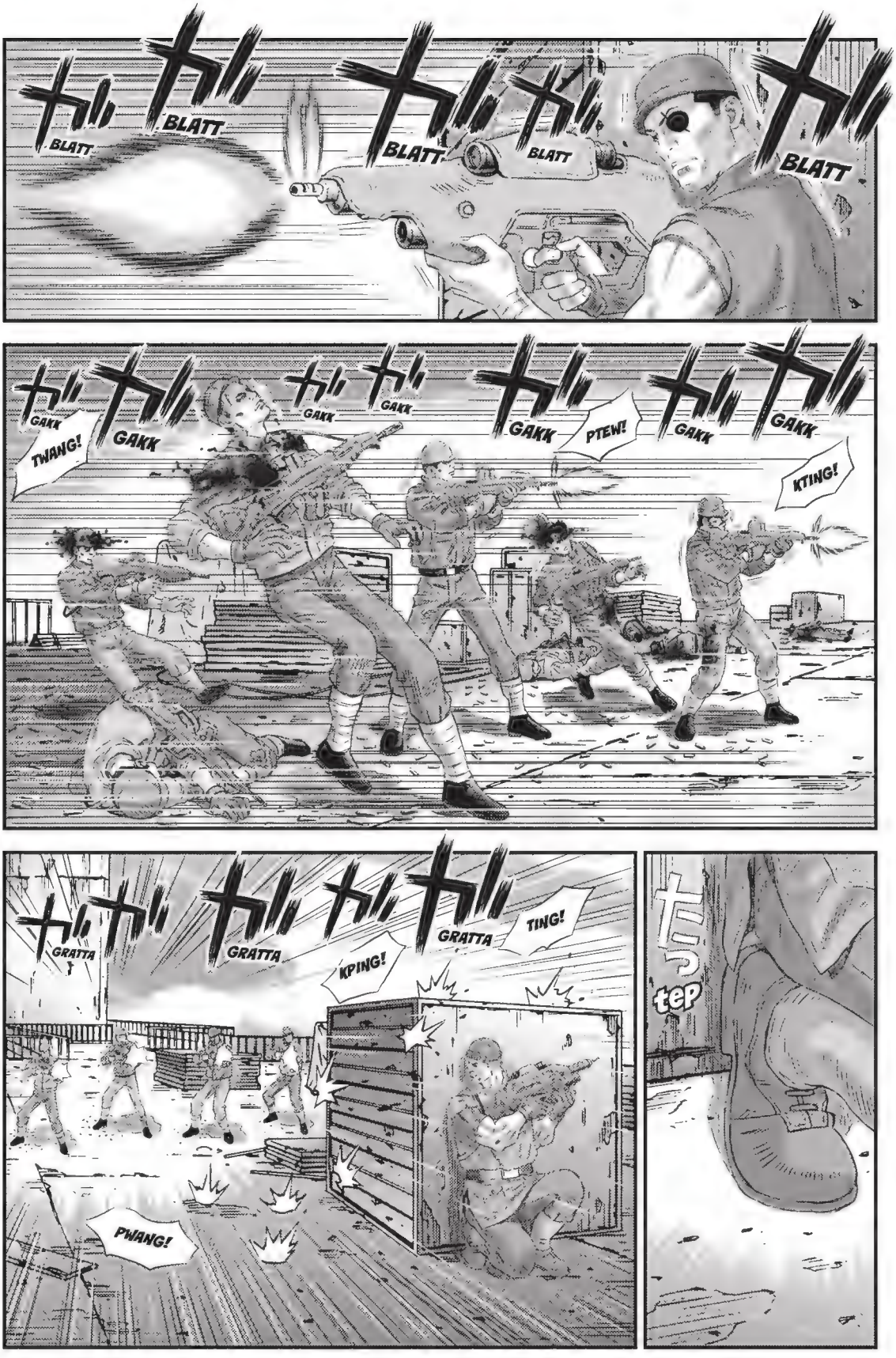

GRRMMM
DAT
DAT
DAT
DAT
DAT
DAT

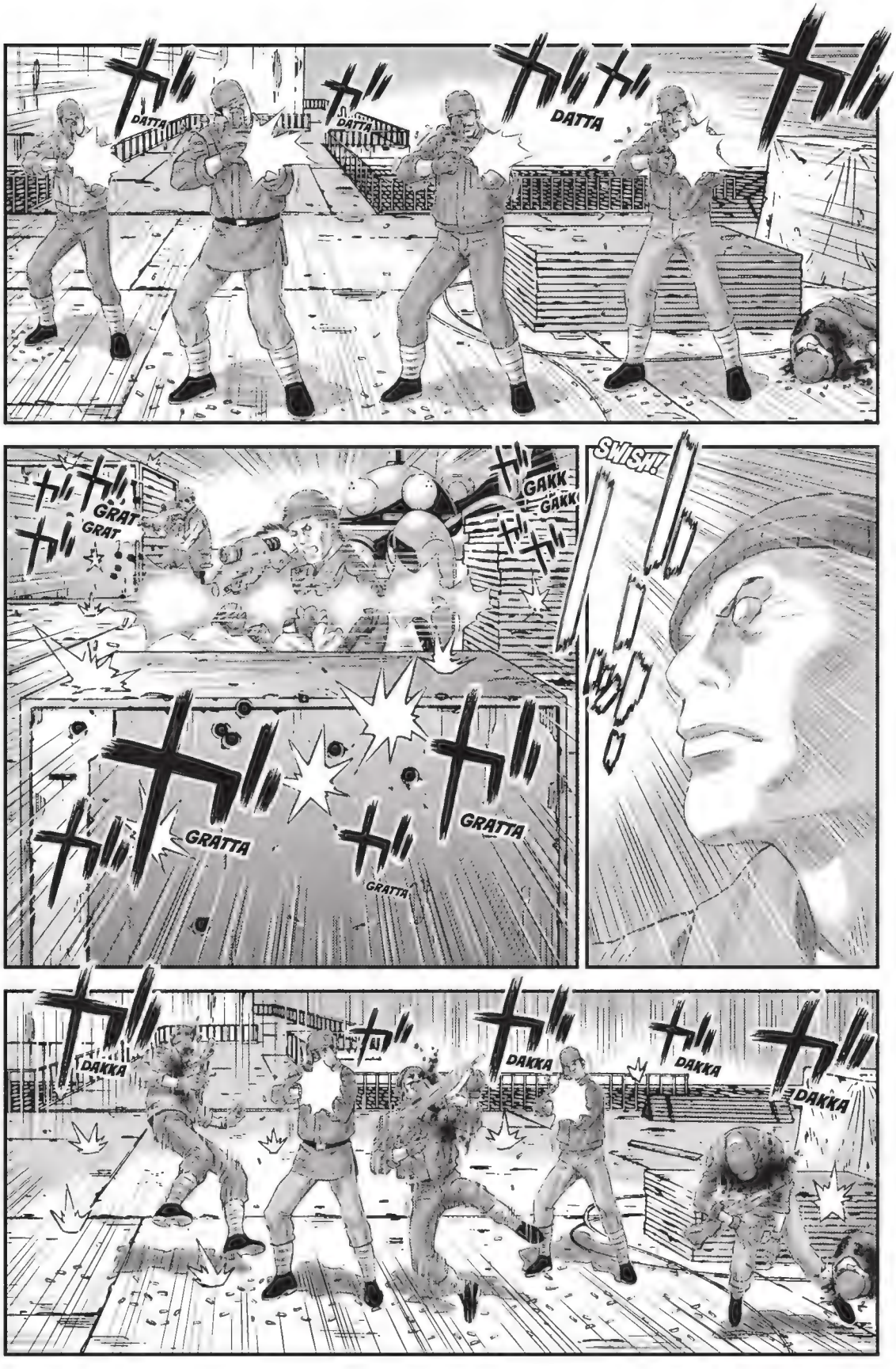

GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
PANG!
TING!
GAK
GAK
GAK...
KTING!
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK

GRAK GRAK GRAKK
I THINK SHE'S STILL INSIDE THE CONTROL TOWER!!
WHERE'S MAJOR?!
GAK GAK GAK...
GRATTA GRATTA
KCHUK
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GATTA
GATTA
GATTA
DATT
DATT
PTEW
DATT
DATT
PWO
DATT
DATT
KTWO
DATT
DSHT
BSHT!

!?
!?
BOOM!
COULD BE...
...FIGHTING THESE ZOMBIES WITH A LITTLE GIRL IN TOW?
YOU THINK EVEN THE MAJOR WILL HAVE TROUBLE...
DRATT DRATT
DRATT DRATT
DRATT DRATT
DRATT DRATT
KTING!
CAUTION
YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS!!
COVER ME!!
ZSH
OKAY! WE'VE GOTTA HELP THEM!

GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
LEAP
SHIK!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
TAKE CARE, BATÔ-SAN!!
DATTA
DATTA
DSH
DSH
DSH
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK


BLATT
BLATT
BLATT
BLATT
BLATT
GAKK
TWANG!
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
PTEW!
GAKK
GAKK
KTING!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
KPING!
TING!
PWANG!
tep


DATTA
DATTA
DATTA
GRAT
GRAT
GAKK
GAKK
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
SWISH!
DAKKA
DAKKA
DAKKA
DAKKA

GRATTA GRATTA
JESUS!
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
DO THEY HAVE ANY CONCEPT OF FEAR?!
GAKK
GAKK
NO PROSTHETICS, NO EFFORT TO HIDE TO AVOID DANGER...
DSH!

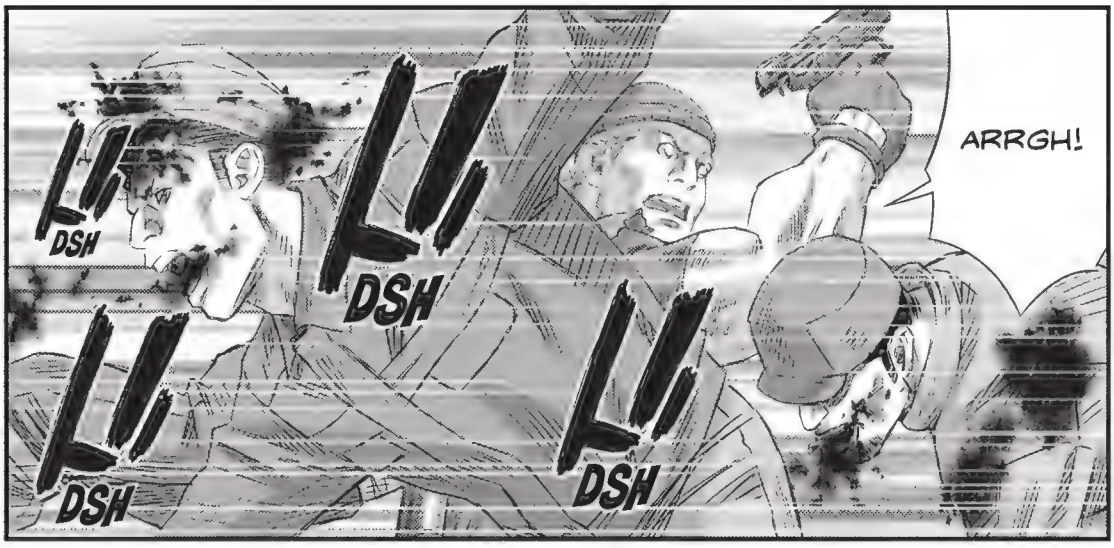
GRAFTA
GRAFTA
DSH
DSH
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
!!
ZSH!
SHIT...!!
DADAH
DADAH
URGH!

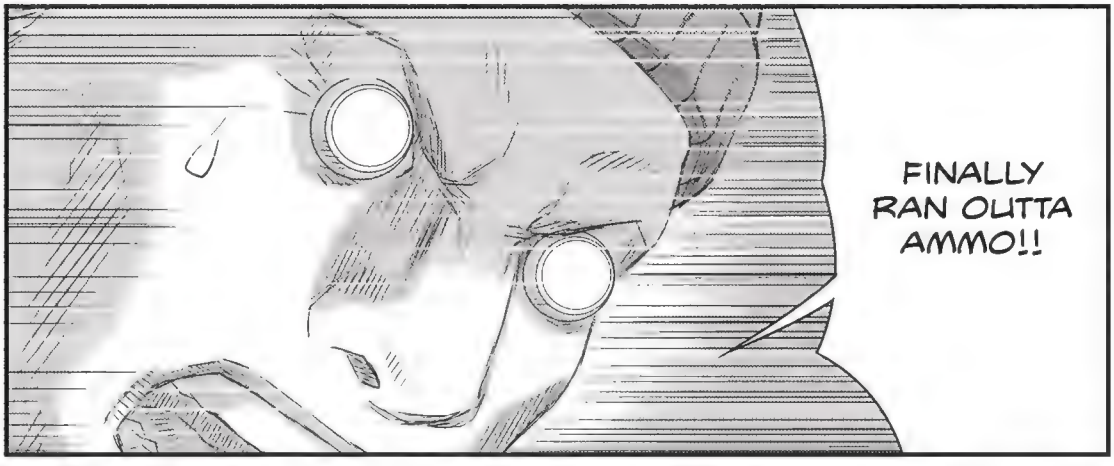
RAAA-HHH!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
DUPPA
DUPPA
DUPPA
DUPPA
GRAKK
GRAKK
AAAHH!!
AAAHHH!
GRATTA
GRATTA

TNWAM!
STOMP!
GSHANK!
WHA--?!
CHK
BWAM!

DH
DH
DH
SHHP!
OH, YOU HAVE TO BE SHITTING ME!!

GOD DAMNIT!!
PSHU!
PSHU!
PSHU!
DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH
POP
POP
POP
POP
FUCK!
CLICK!


DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH
ARRGH!


FINALLY RAN OUTTA AMMO!!

SWISH!

!

GRNK!
RAAGH!!
DMF
DMF
DMF
SHKK!
KCHUK!
SONS OF BITCHES!!
GRK!

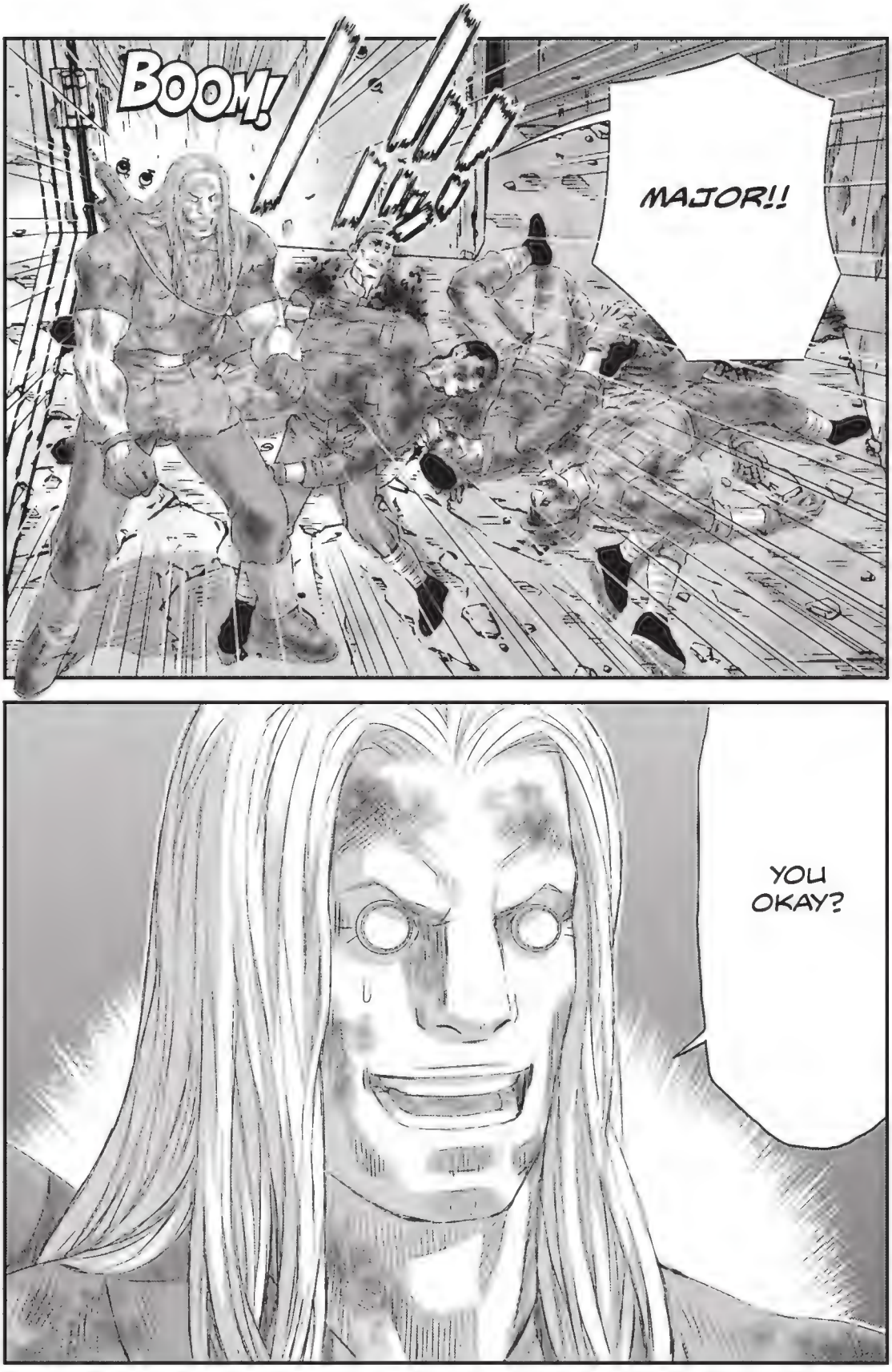
RAAAAHH!!
FWOOP!
THWAM!

GONK!

GRAK!
MOVE IT, MOVE IT, MOVE IT!!
DSH DSH
WHOOSH!
BSH!
RAAA-AAH!!

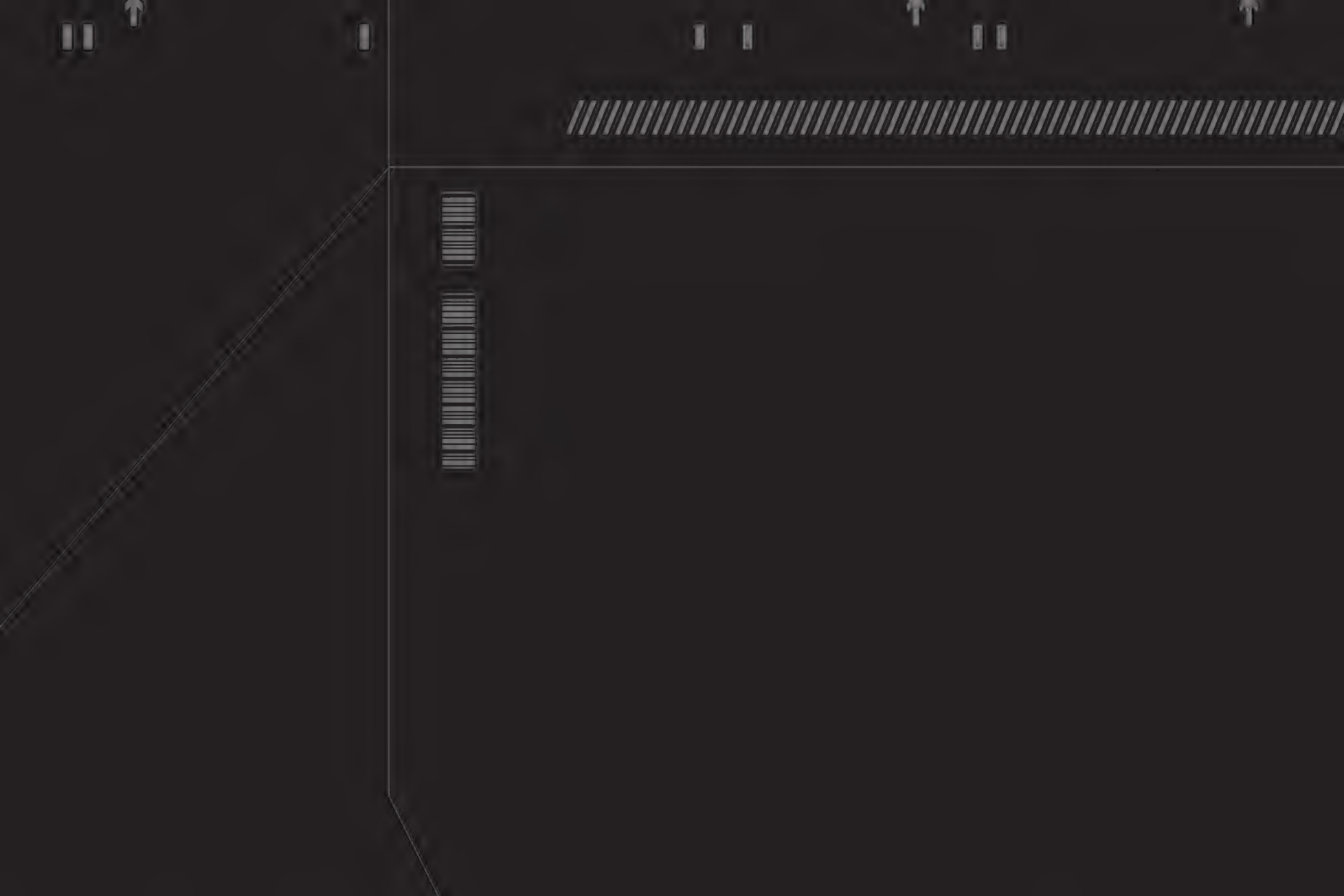
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
DSHH!

HUH...?
?
RAAAHHH!!
SHH!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
TWAM!
DSH
DSH
DSH
STOMP!

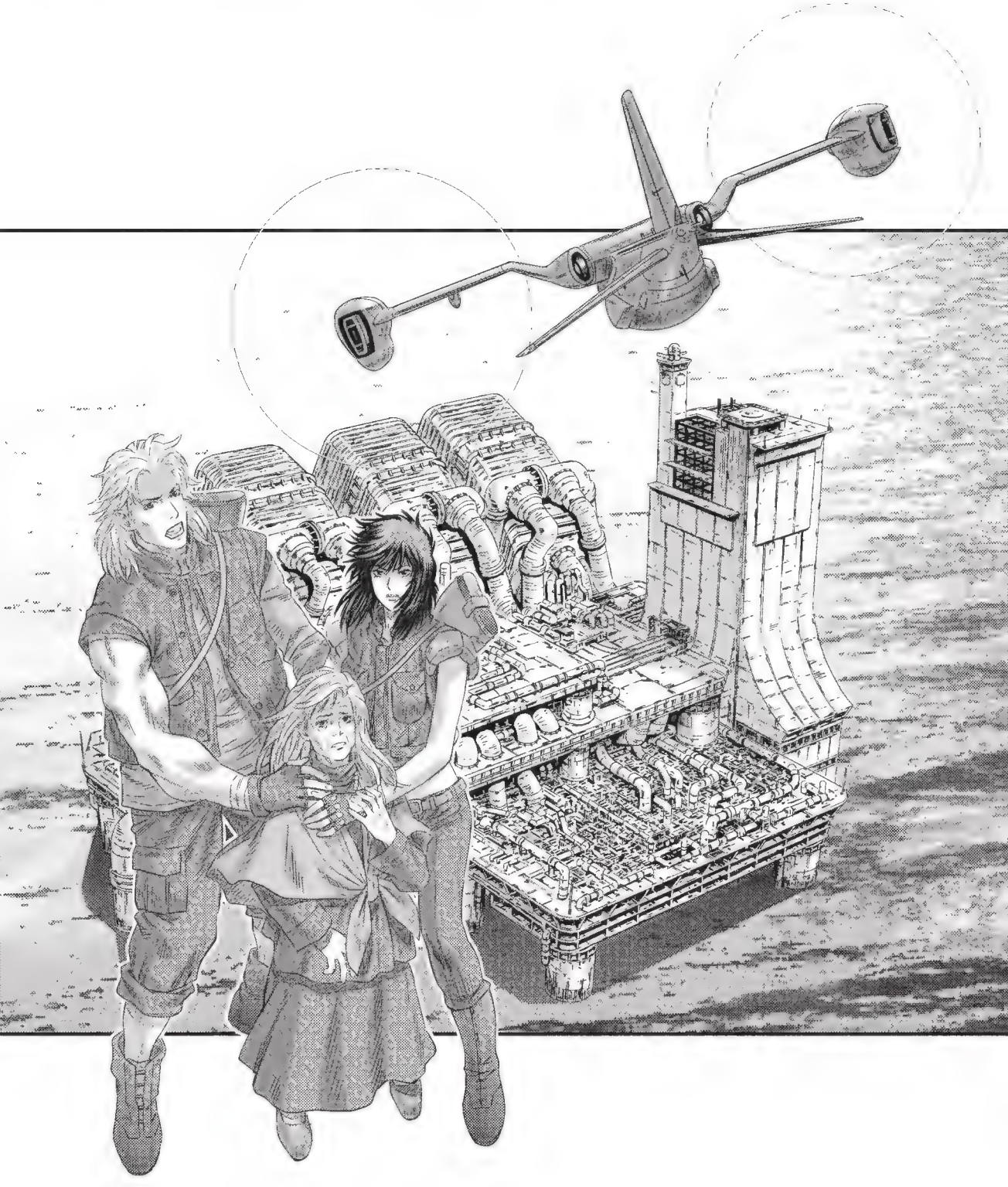

BOOM!
MAJOR!!
YOU OKAY?

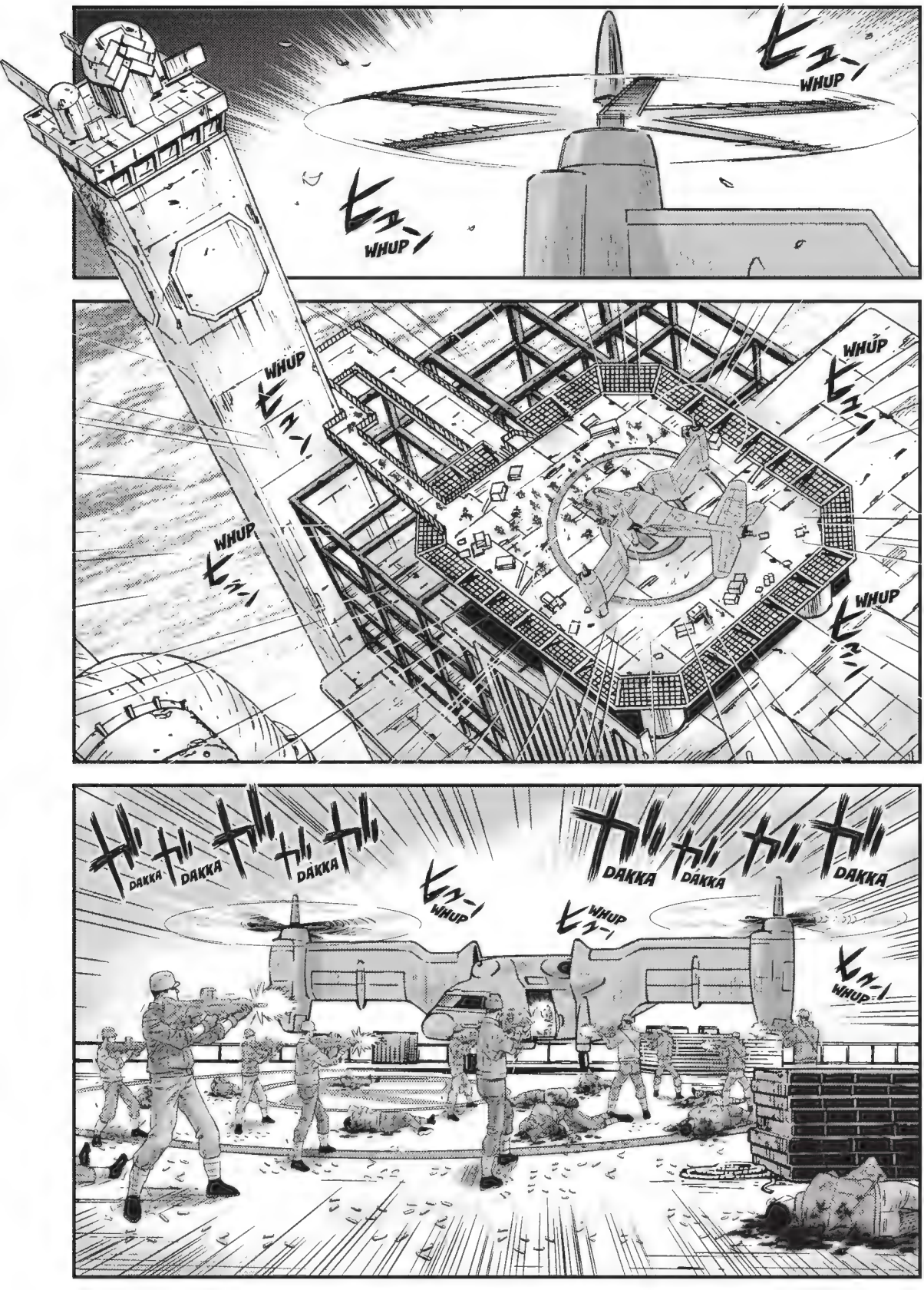
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING?
...
RESCUING YOU...
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
BATÔ...
Tsk.
WHO ASKED YOU TO DO THAT?
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.
GONG
MY OWN BUSINESS...

#039 End



#040: Absolute Resistance




WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
DAKKA
DAKKA
DAKKA
DAKKA
DAKKA
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
WE'RE BACKING YOU UP, SAITO!
GAKK
GAKK
JUST GET THAT MSA GUY ON BOARD!!
GRATTA
KTING!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
KCHUN!
GAKK
GAKK
...THE BRIGADE'S RESISTANCE IS TOO FIERCE!!
DATTA
DATTA
DATTA
I KNOW, BUT...
DATTA
DATTA

HI-
YAAAH!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
DSHH
DSHH
DSHH
DSHH
DSHH
BOMF!
GLANK
GLONK!
GONK

BOOM!
DSHHH
DON'T FORGET, SAKAKIBARA'S INSIDE YOUR CHAMBER!!
YOU IDIOT!
YEAAAAH!!
WOOHOO!
FLOP
FLIP
BUT, BUT...
...I WANNA FEEL TRUE WARFARE!

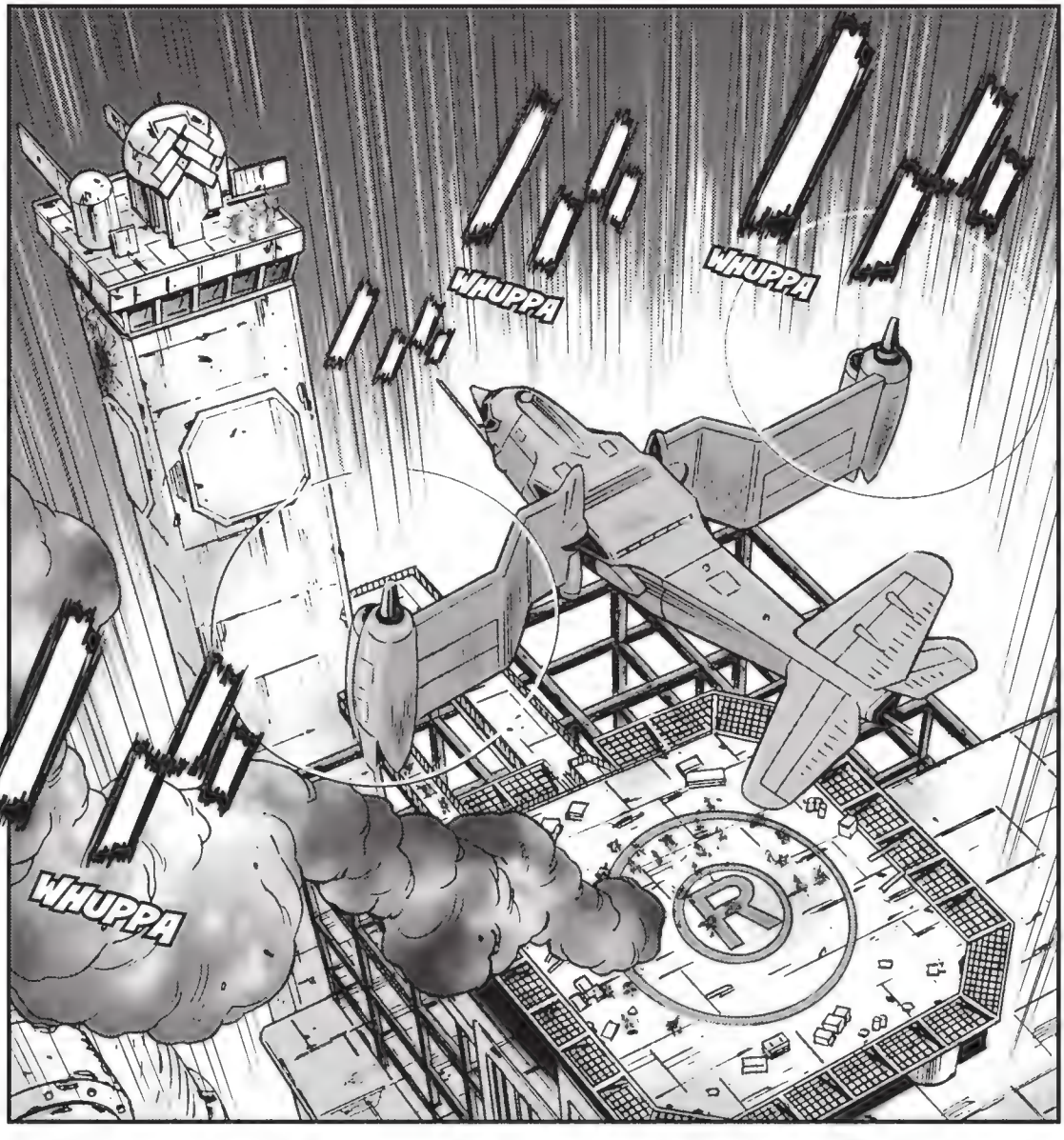
VWOOOOM
EEEP!
WHRRR
HMM?
SHIT! JUST MISSED!!
KCHK
GAKK GAKK GAKK
WHAT?!
GAK GAK
HEY...IS THAT--?!

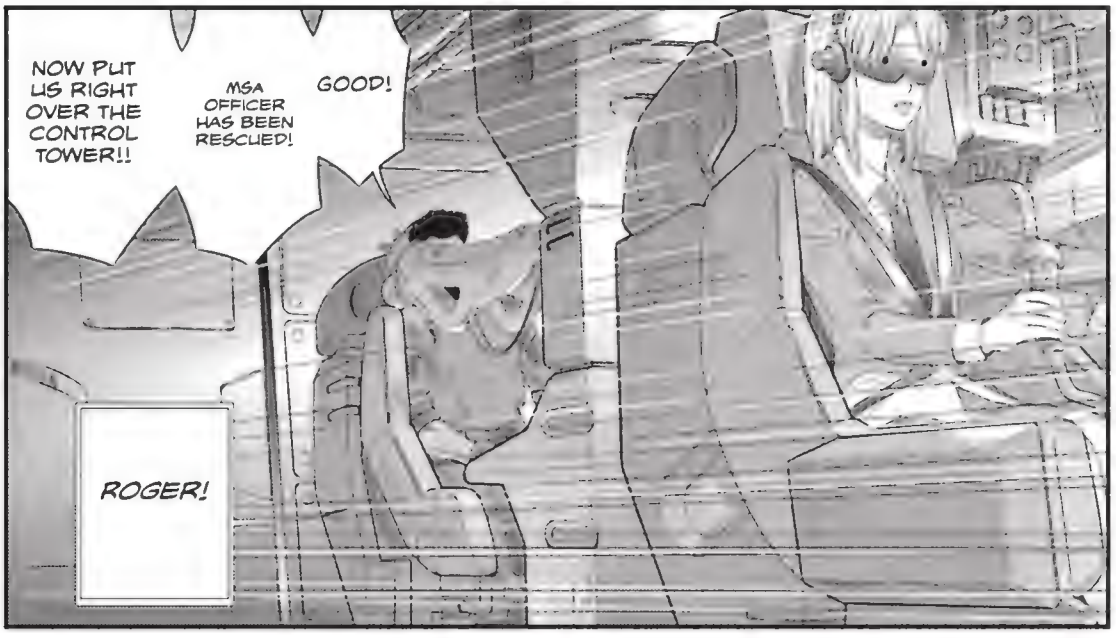
ON IT!
HURRY IT UP!
NEXT ONE!
GAKK GAKK
GRK
WHERE'D THEY GET THIS ORD-NANCE?!
THEY'VE GOT RPGS!
EEEP! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!!
VMM
HRRG!
DSH
GRATTA GRATTA
CNK!
!
PYEW!
KTING!
THE MSA GUY'S ON THE HELI!
LEAP!
PAZ, BORMA, YOU SAVED MY ASS!!
KTING!
GAKKA GAKKA GAKKA
GAKKA GAKKA
KPANG!
...THAT WEIRD-ASS CHOPPER!!
KRRK
GRRGGG
I'VE GOTTA LIGHT UP...
WHUP
GAKK GAKK GAKK
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
GAKK GAKK GAKK
KRRK

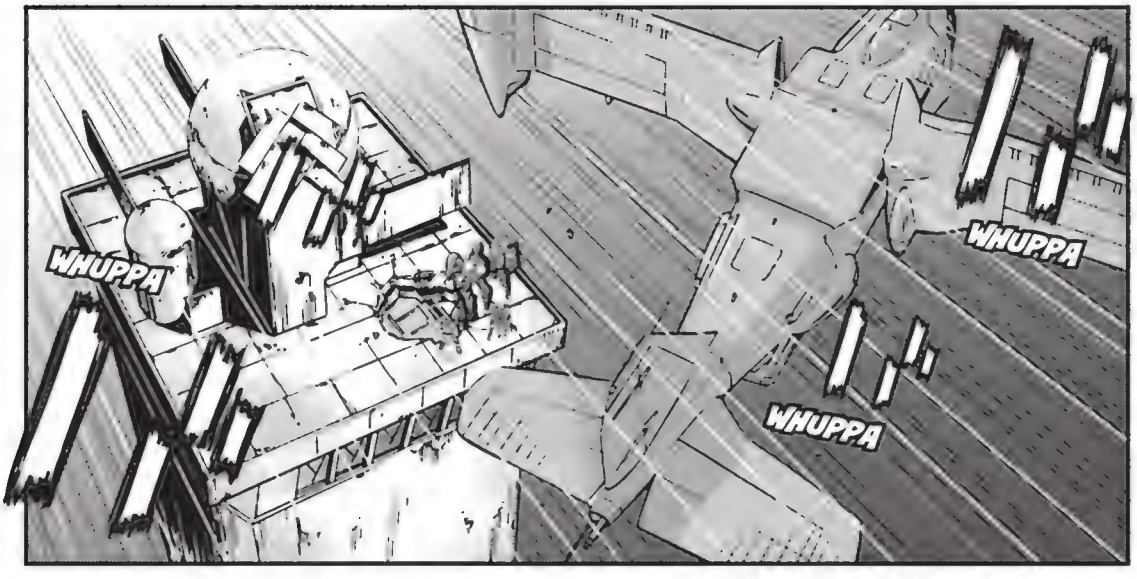
CHK!
I'LL HANDLE THEM!
SWAP!
GRATTA GRATTA
FWOOOM
FWOOOM
TUG
TUG

BOOM...
GRATTA-GRATTA-
ROGER!
GRATTA
GET MOVING NOW, ISHI-KAWA!!
GOT HIM!!
GRATTA GRATTA

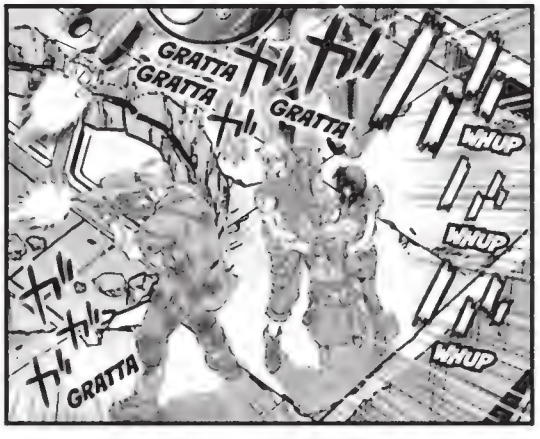
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA


WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA


NOW PUT US RIGHT OVER THE CONTROL TOWER!!
MSA OFFICER HAS BEEN RESCUED!
GOOD!
ROGER!


WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA

WE'VE GOTTA GET THEM ON BOARD!
THEY'RE SURROUNDED BY THE BRIGADE, TRYING TO FIGHT 'EM OFF!
ROGER!

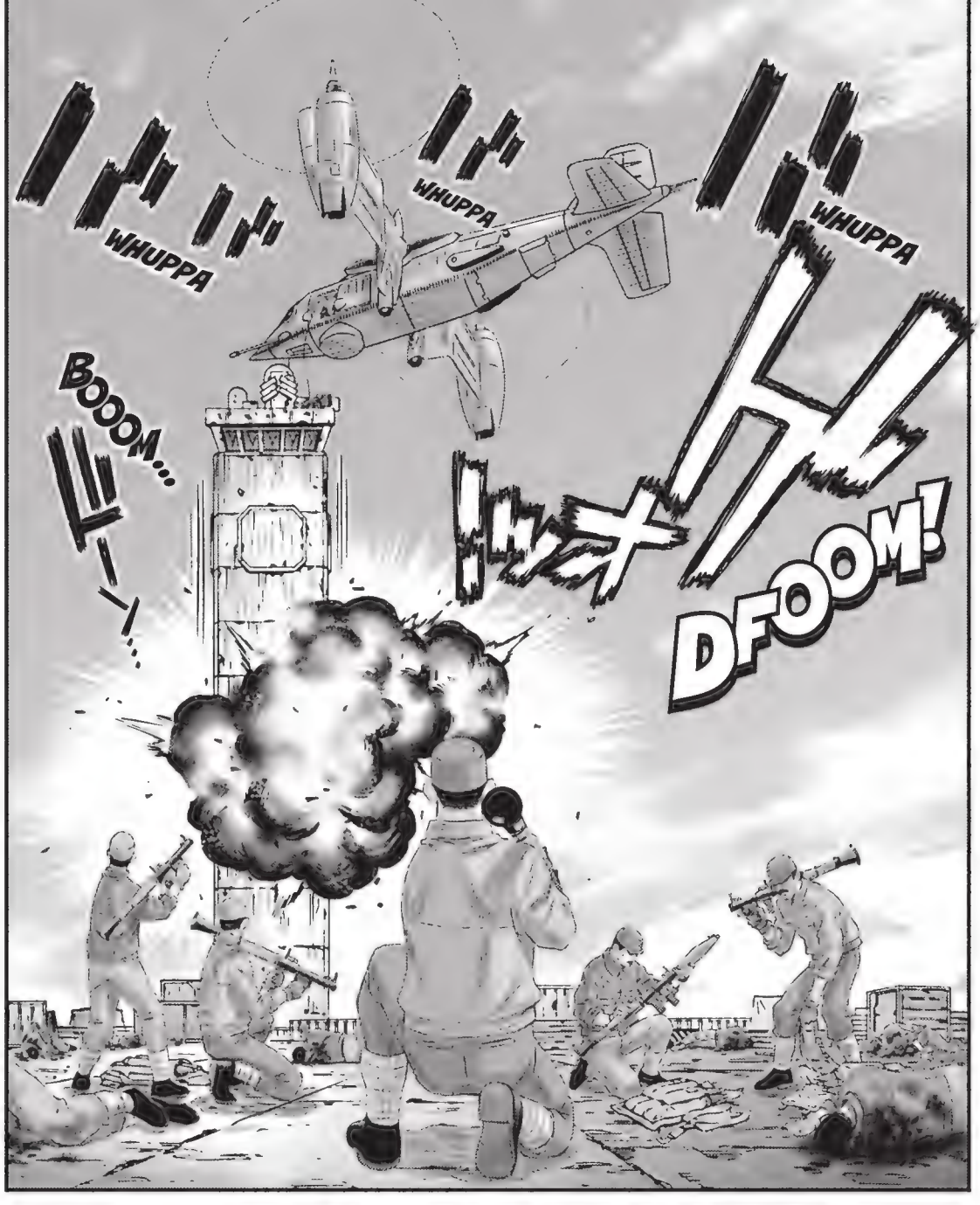

GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
GRATTA
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
I'LL HANDLE THINGS HERE!
YOU HURRY AHEAD!!
GAKK
GAKK
GAKK
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
ROGER!
I'VE GOT EKA TOKURA!
GO ON, TOGU-SA!
WHUPPA
GRATTA GRATTA
ZOOP!
SNAG!

HERE WE GO!
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
DBOOOM!!
YAACK!!
!
WHOA!!

WHAT WAS THAT?!
DMM
DMM
RRGH!
DMM
DMM
DMM
DRRMMMM

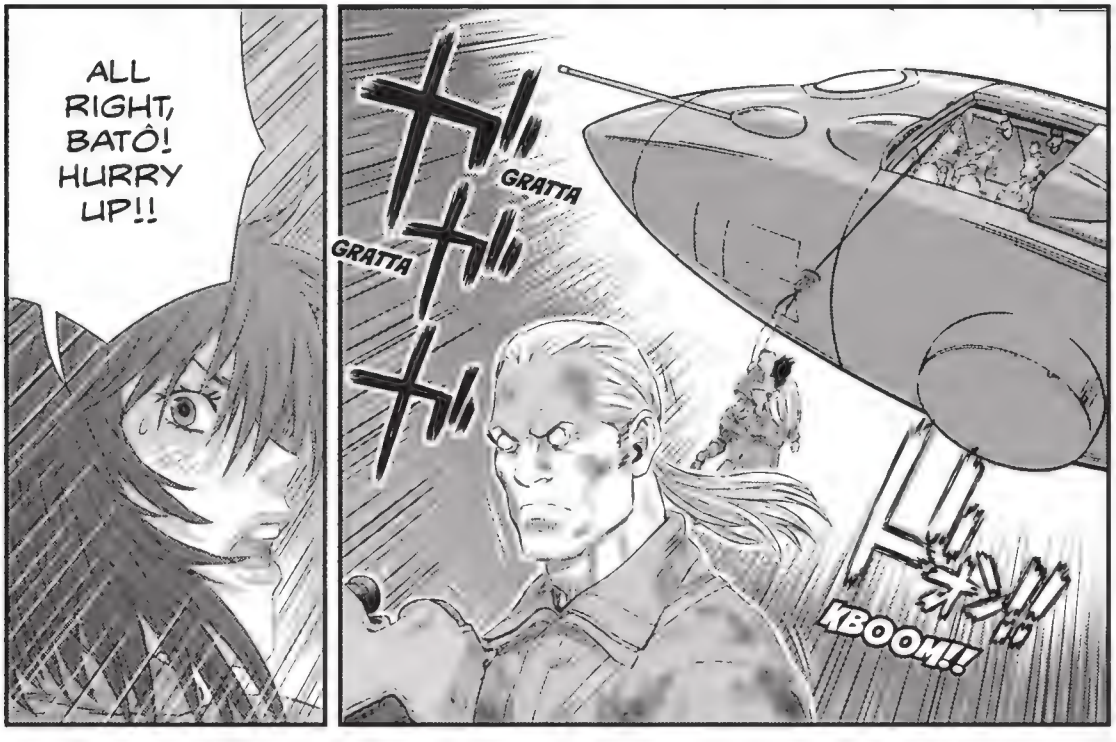
PSHU!
PSHU!
DSHHK!
SHUUUU


WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
BOOOM...
DFOOM!

THE TOWER'S GOING DOWN!
HURRY, MAJOR!
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! THEY'RE GONNA BRING DOWN THE CONTROL TOWER!
DMM
DMM
DMM

DMMMM
ZRRDD...
ZMF!
DSH
DSH
DSH
BOOM!!
SHIT...
AAGH!
BOOM!
WHAK
DSHHH
AAH!
LEAP

GRATTA
GRATTA
DOOOMM
HRRGH!
SNAG!
KBOOOM!!

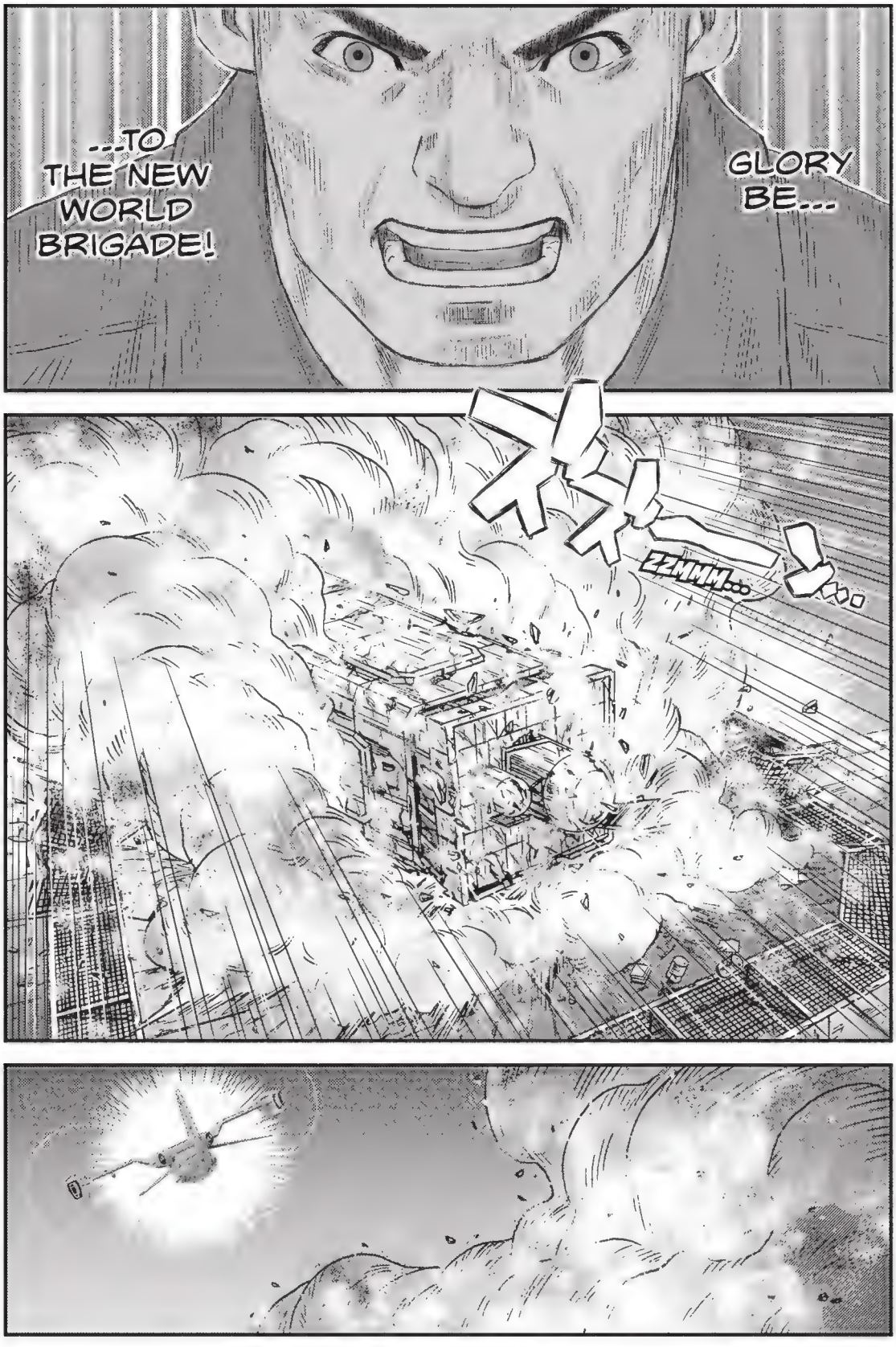

ALL RIGHT, BATÔ! HURRY UP!!
GRATTA
GRATTA
KBOOM!!

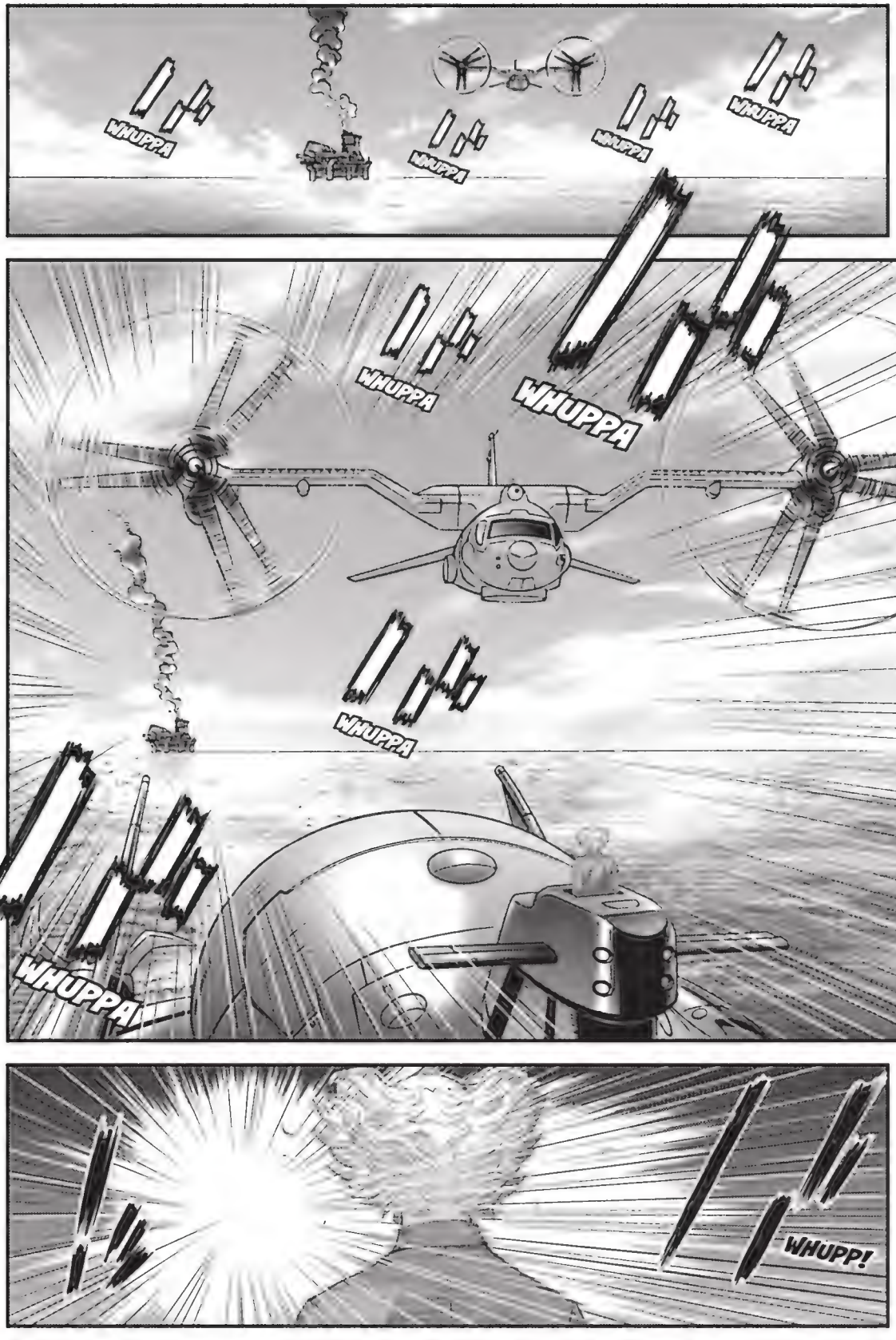
AACK!!
WHOA!
VWOOM!
BATÔ-SAN, THERE'S NO TIME! THE TOWER'S GOING DOWN!!
GRATTA GRATTA
BSHUNK!
WHY DON'T YOU CRY ME A RIVER ABOUT IT?!
GRATTA GRATTA
TH-THEY GOT ONE OF MY LEGS!!
WE'RE GONNA DIE IN A SECOND!!
DMMMMM
DSHK!
YOU AIN'T GOIN' NO-WHERE!

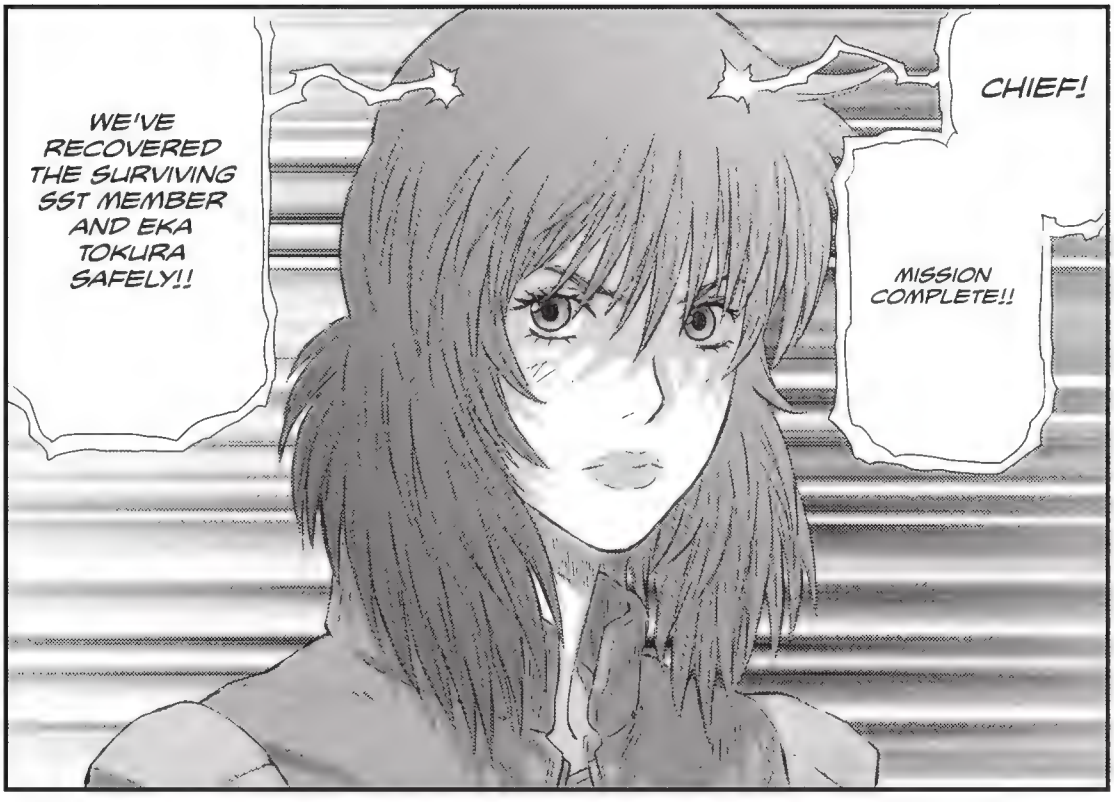
DSSSHHH
ZMMF!
KABOOM!!
HURRY UP, BATÔ!!
DRRMMM
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
H-HERE GOES!!
GO, TACHI-KOMA!!
TWUP
DSSSHH
MSH
MSH

AAAA-AHH!!
ZWOOSH!
EEE-EEP!!
GREAT! GET US OUTTA HERE, ISHI-KAWA!
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
SWOOP!
DSSSHH
ZZUMM...

DRRSHHH
GLORY BE TO THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
GLORY BE TO THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
GLORY BE TO THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
GRRG

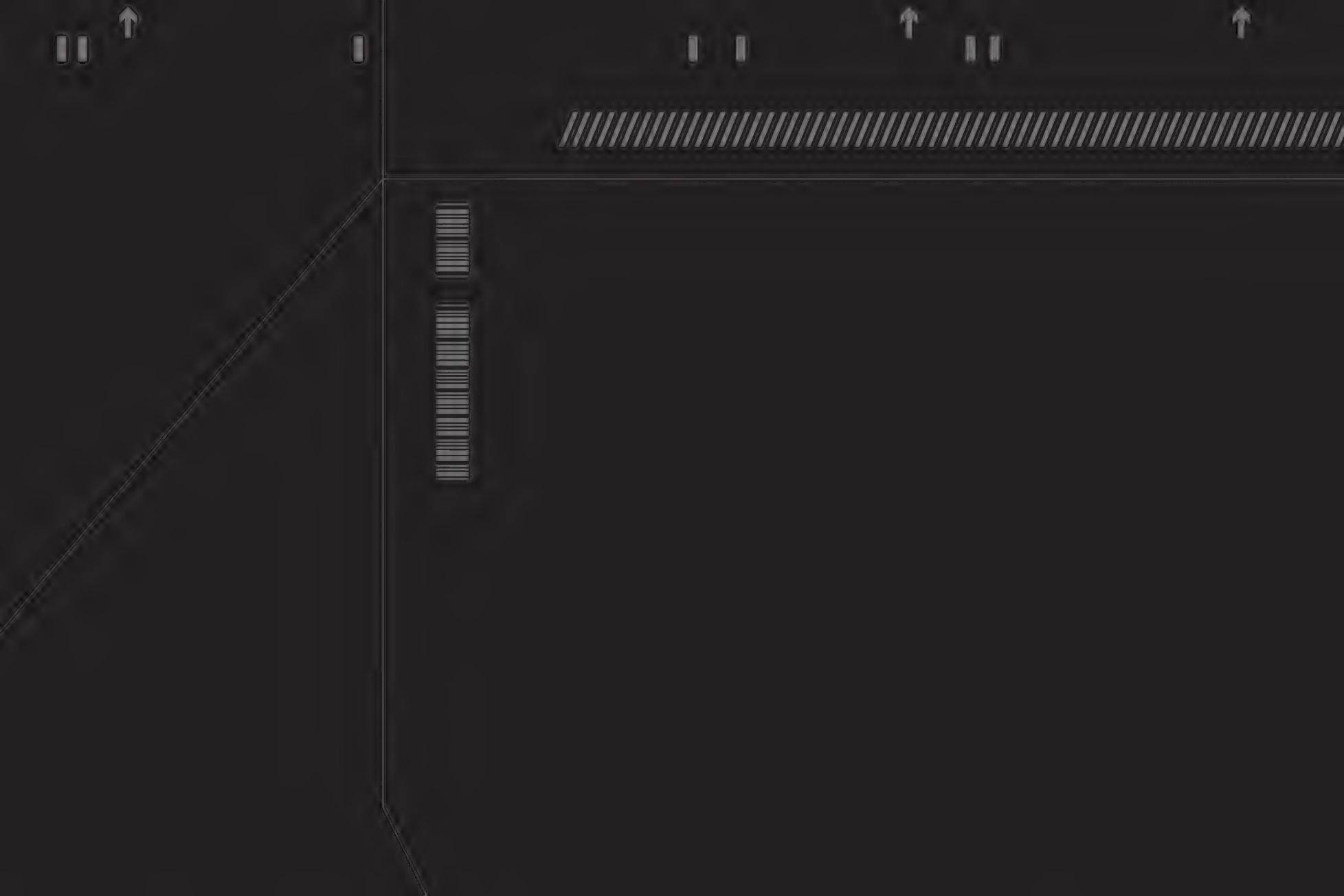

...TO THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE!
GLORY BE...
ZZMMM...


WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPP!

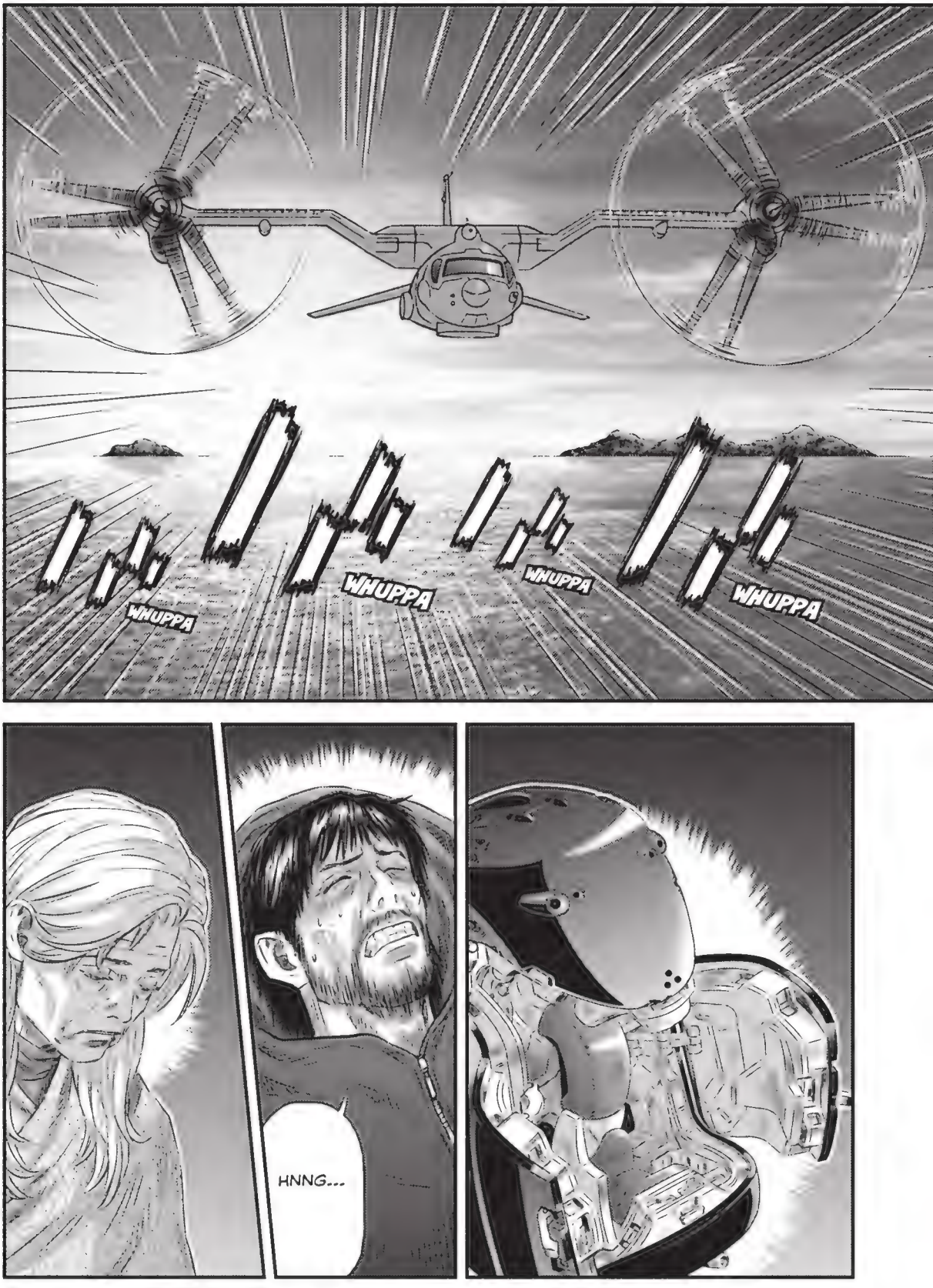

WE'VE RECOVERED THE SURVIVING SST MEMBER AND EKA TOKURA SAFELY!!
CHIEF!
MISSION COMPLETE!!

GOOD WORK!

#040 End

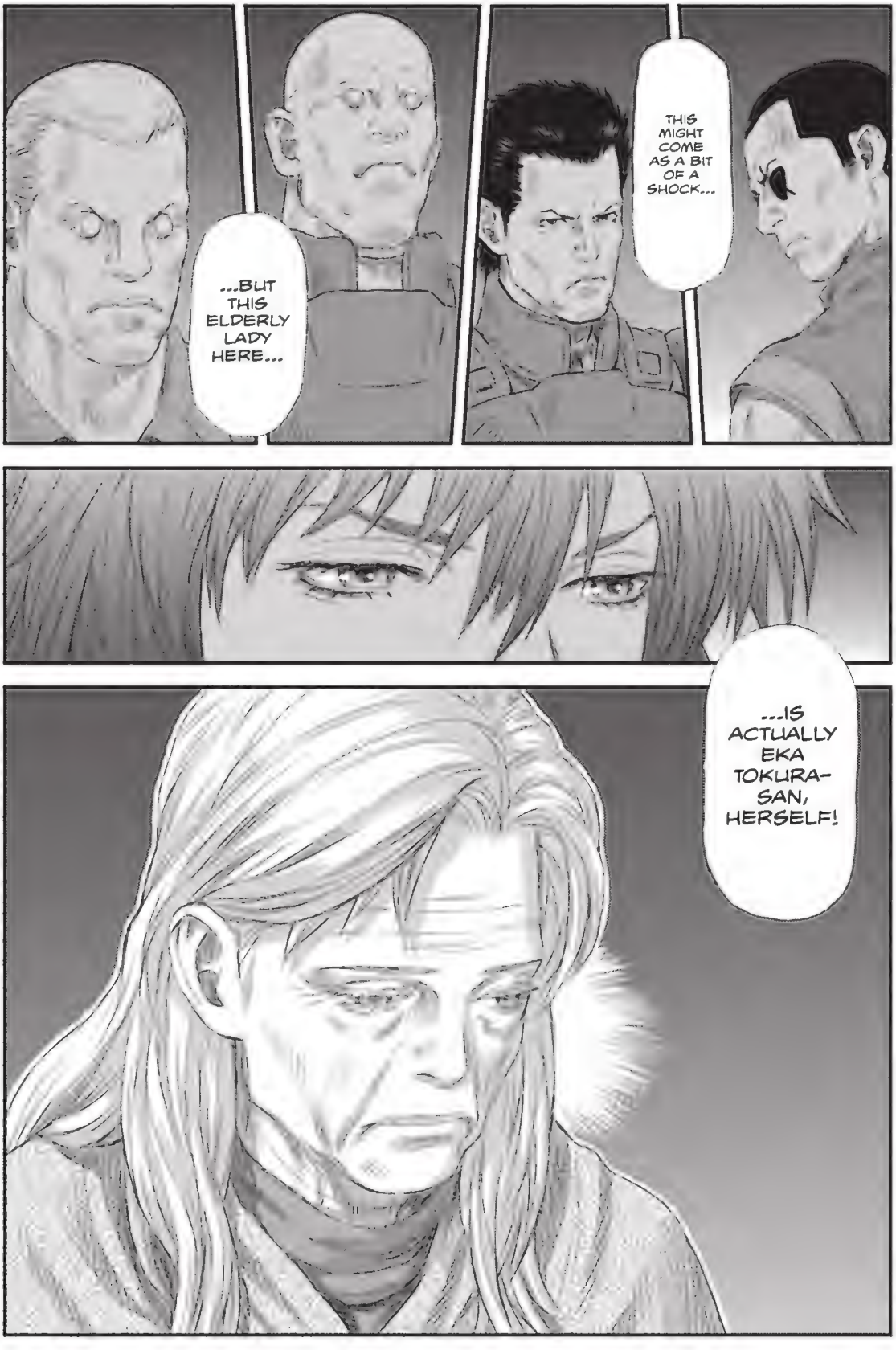


#041: The Girl's Identity

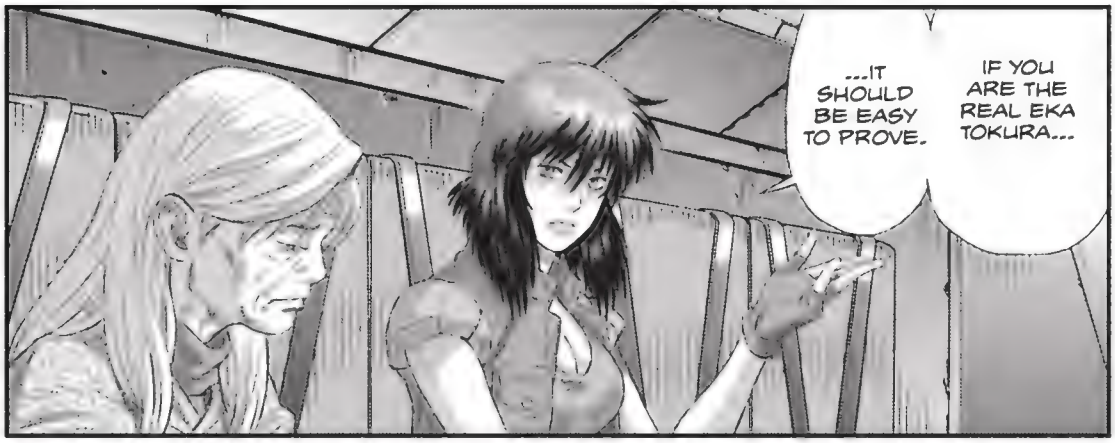

WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
HNNG...

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, SAKAKI-BARA...
WE'RE SENDING YOU TO SST HQ FOR THE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY.
UGH...
...

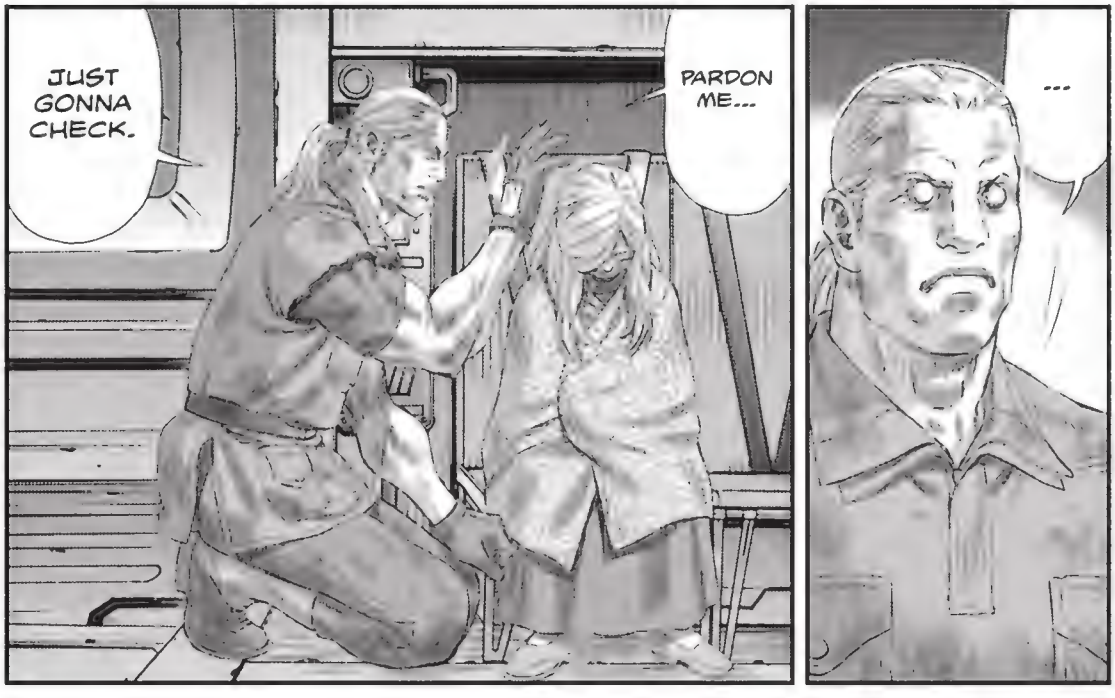
HEY, TOGUSA!
WHO'S THE OLD BROAD?
PLUS...
WHAT ABOUT EKA TOKURA?
OH, UM...
RIGHT. SORRY...

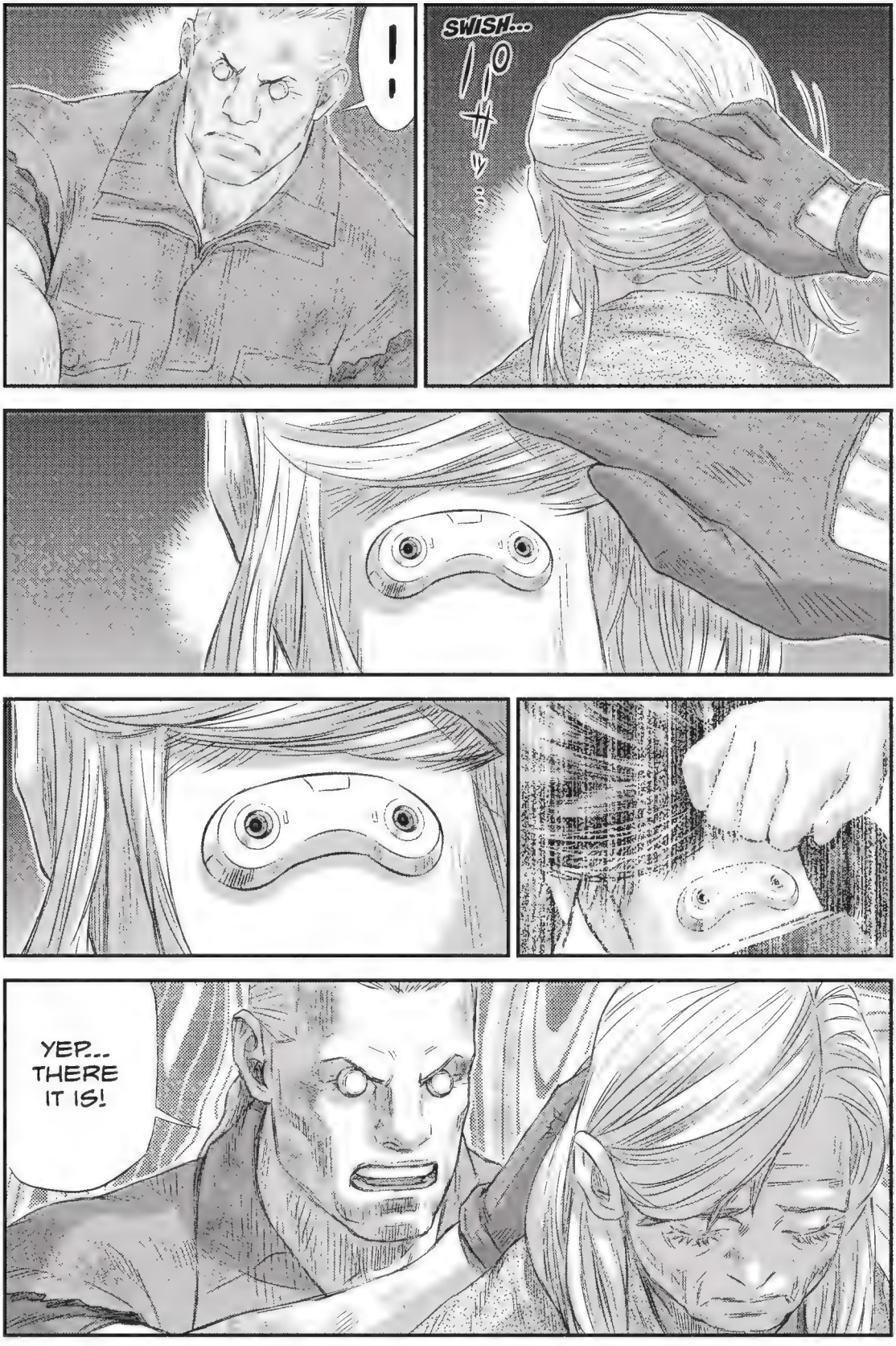

...BUT THIS ELDERLY LADY HERE...
THIS MIGHT COME AS A BIT OF A SHOCK...
...IS ACTUALLY EKA TOKURA-SAN, HERSELF!

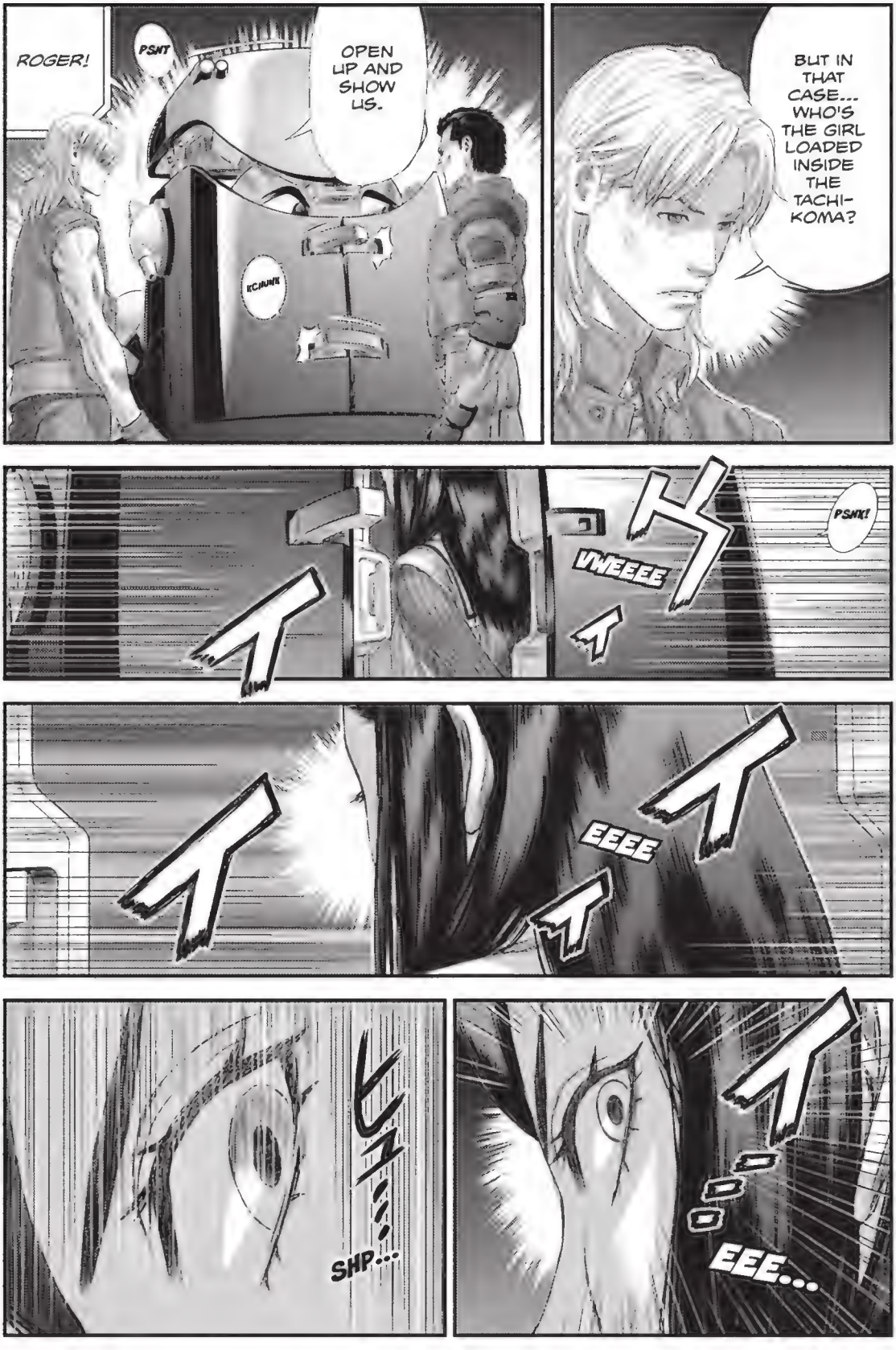
THAT'S CRAZY...
WH-WHOA, HANG ON A SEC, TOGUSA!
!
WHAT?!
SHE DOESN'T LOOK ANYTHING NEAR THAT AGE...
WHICH WOULD MAKE HER 26 TODAY!
EKA TOKURA WAS TEN YEARS OLD WHEN SHE WAS ABDUCTED BY THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE.
16 YEARS AGO...
MA-JOR...?
...AND TAKE A CLOSER LOOK?
WHY DON'T YOU COME HERE...


IF YOU ARE THE REAL EKA TOKURA...
...IT SHOULD BE EASY TO PROVE.

JUST SHOW US THE BACK OF YOUR NECK...
...SO WE CAN SEE YOUR JACK...


PARDON ME...
JUST GONNA CHECK.
...

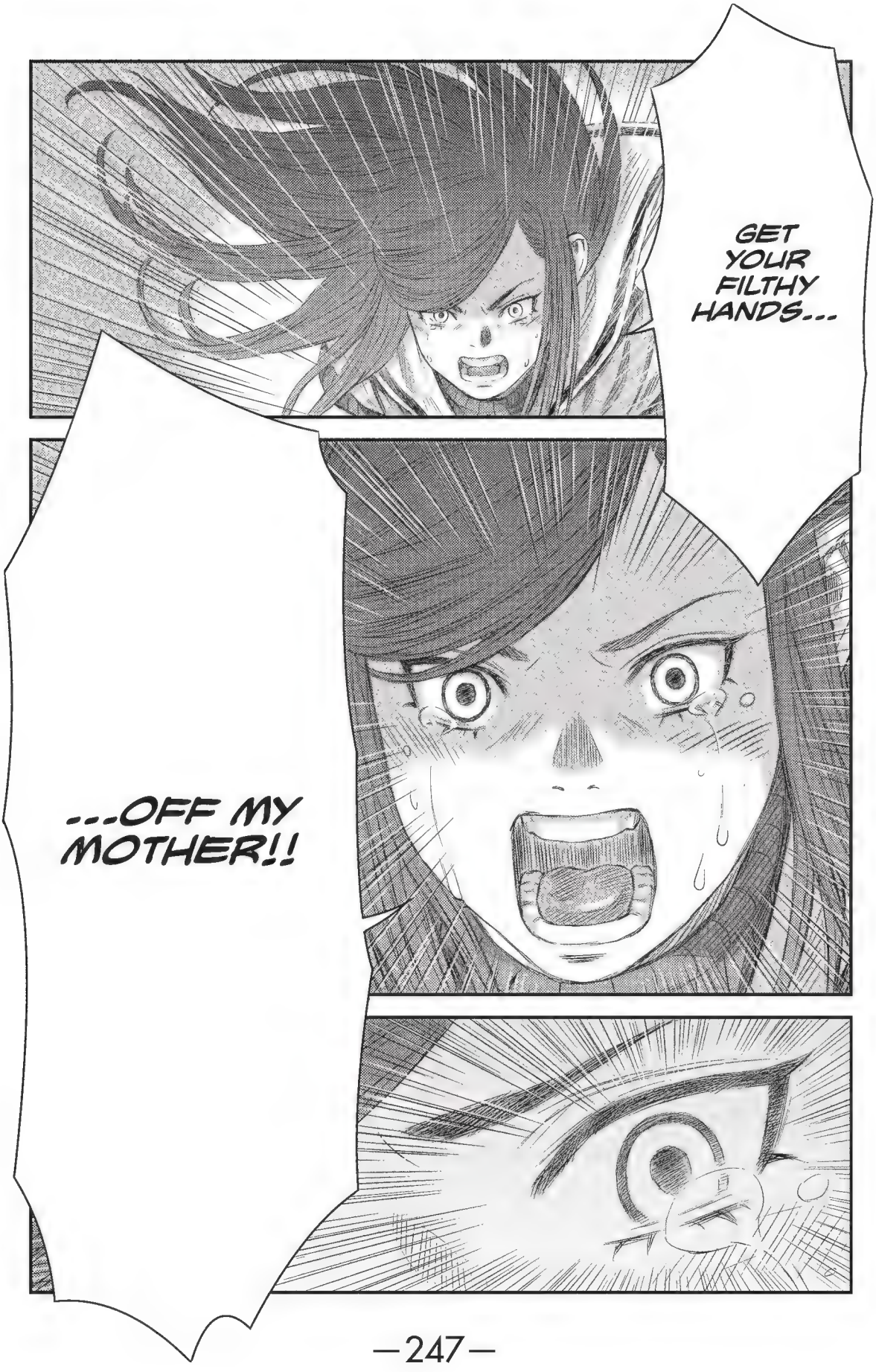

!
SWISH...
YEP... THERE IT IS!


ROGER!
PSNT
OPEN UP AND SHOW US.
KCHUNK
BUT IN THAT CASE... WHO'S THE GIRL LOADED INSIDE THE TACHI-KOMA?
VWEEEE
PSHX!
EEEE
SHP...
EEE...

WHAT THE--?!
ZWIP!
WHOOSH!
FWOOM!

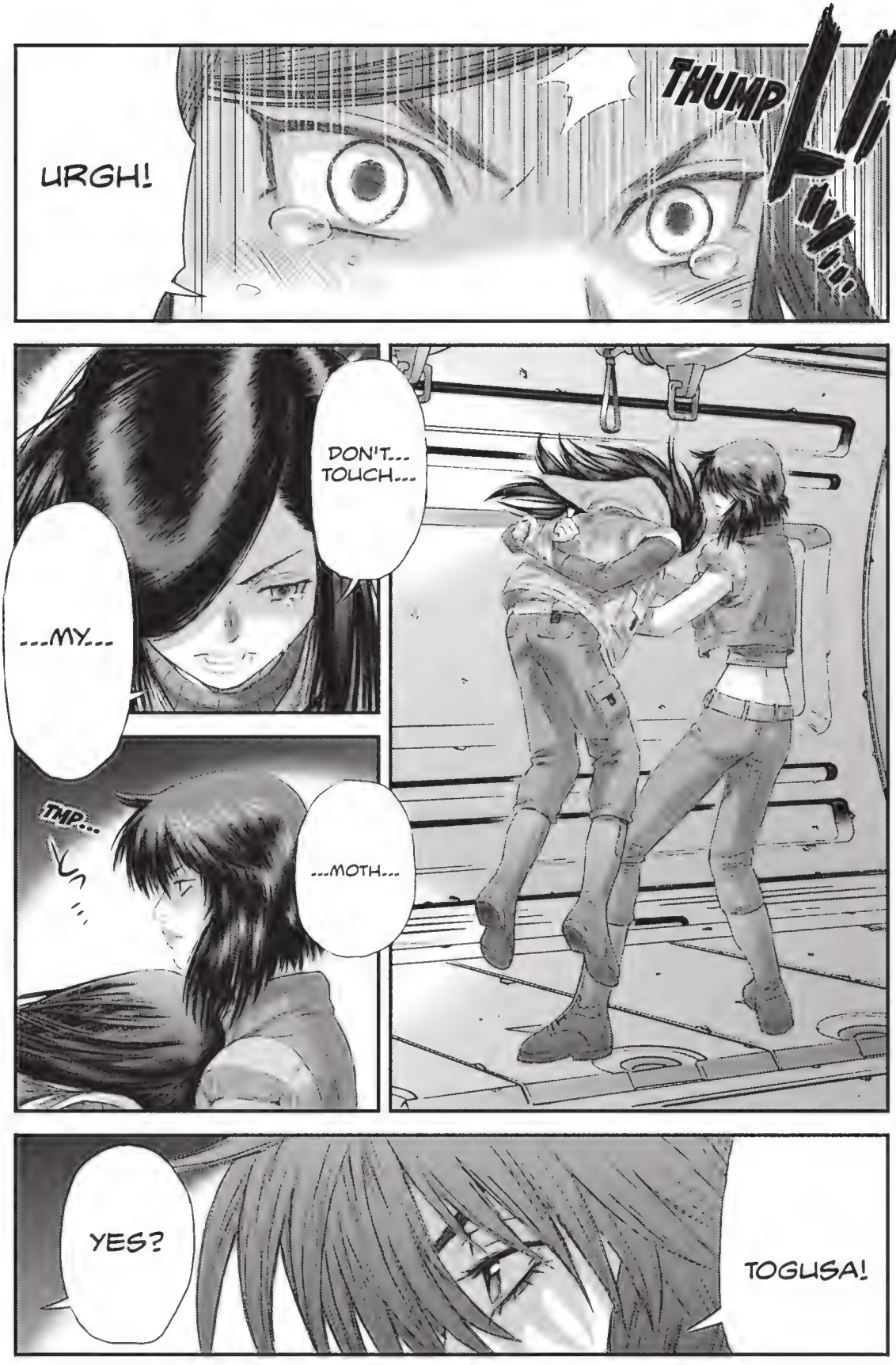
GAKK
HRRGH!
HMPH!
THWAK!
WHOA!

ZSH
ZSH
ZSH
LEAP!
TUP
ZZSSHHHH


GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS...
...OFF MY MOTHER!!

!
SAY WHAT?!
...?!
SWOOSH!
HRGH!
SNAG!

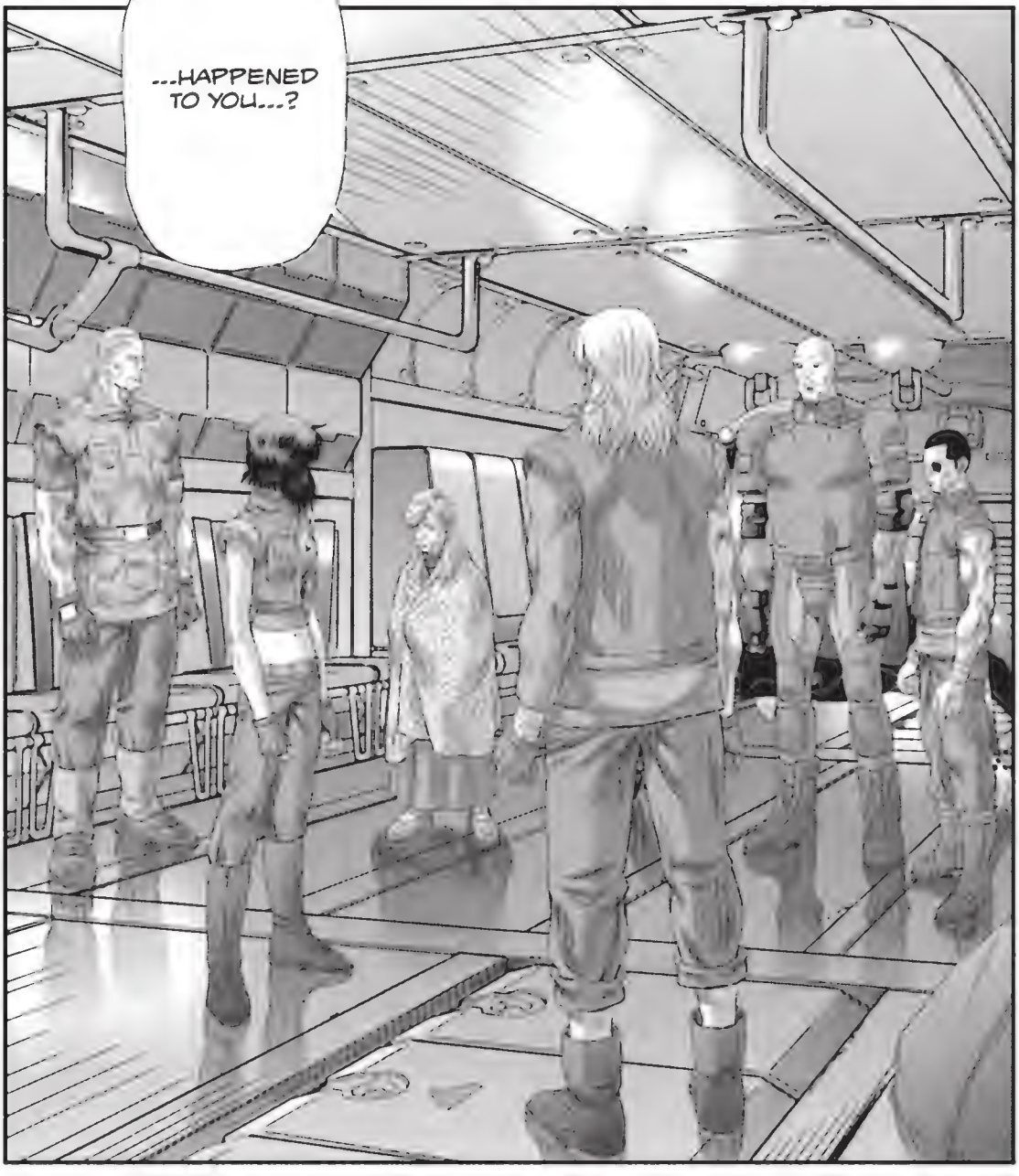
MOTHER?!
M...
SLIP!
DAMN YOU!!
TUP
WHISH
SHWIP
LEAP!

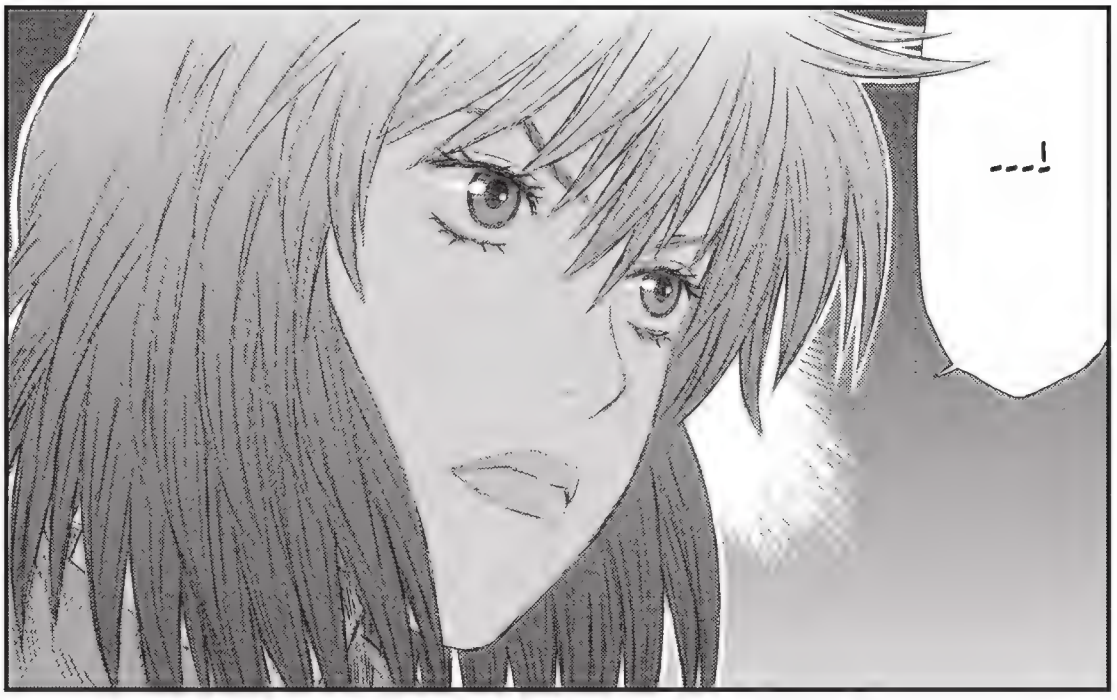

URGH!
THUMP
DON'T... TOUCH...
...MY...
TMP...
...MOTH...
YES?
TOGUSA!

ROGER!
LOCK HER BACK INSIDE THE TACHIKOMA!
LITTLE FILLY.
TURNS OUT SHE WAS EKA TOKURA'S DAUGHTER?
WHAT A SHOCK-ER...
YEAH...
STILL...
...BUT THE DAUGHTER WAS THE ONE RUNNING THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
NOT ONLY THAT...

YOU'RE TELLING ME SHE WAS THE ONE LEADING THOSE FEARLESS MANIACS?!
THAT'S CRAZY... SHE'S JUST A LITTLE GIRL!
THE DAUGHTER, NOT EKA TOKURA HERSELF?!
SHE WAS THEIR LEADER?!
KTHUNK...
PSHT
...AND NOW HER DAUGHTER LEADS THE GROUP...
...AND TURNED INTO AN OLD WOMAN OVER THE FOLLOWING 16 YEARS...
EKA TOKURA WAS ABDUCTED BY THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE AT AGE TEN...

WHAT THE HELL...


...HAPPENED TO YOU...?



#041 End

thought what I'd
THE LONG-AWAITED "LAUGHING MAN" EPISODE COMES SOON!!
YU KINUTANI
end I was one of

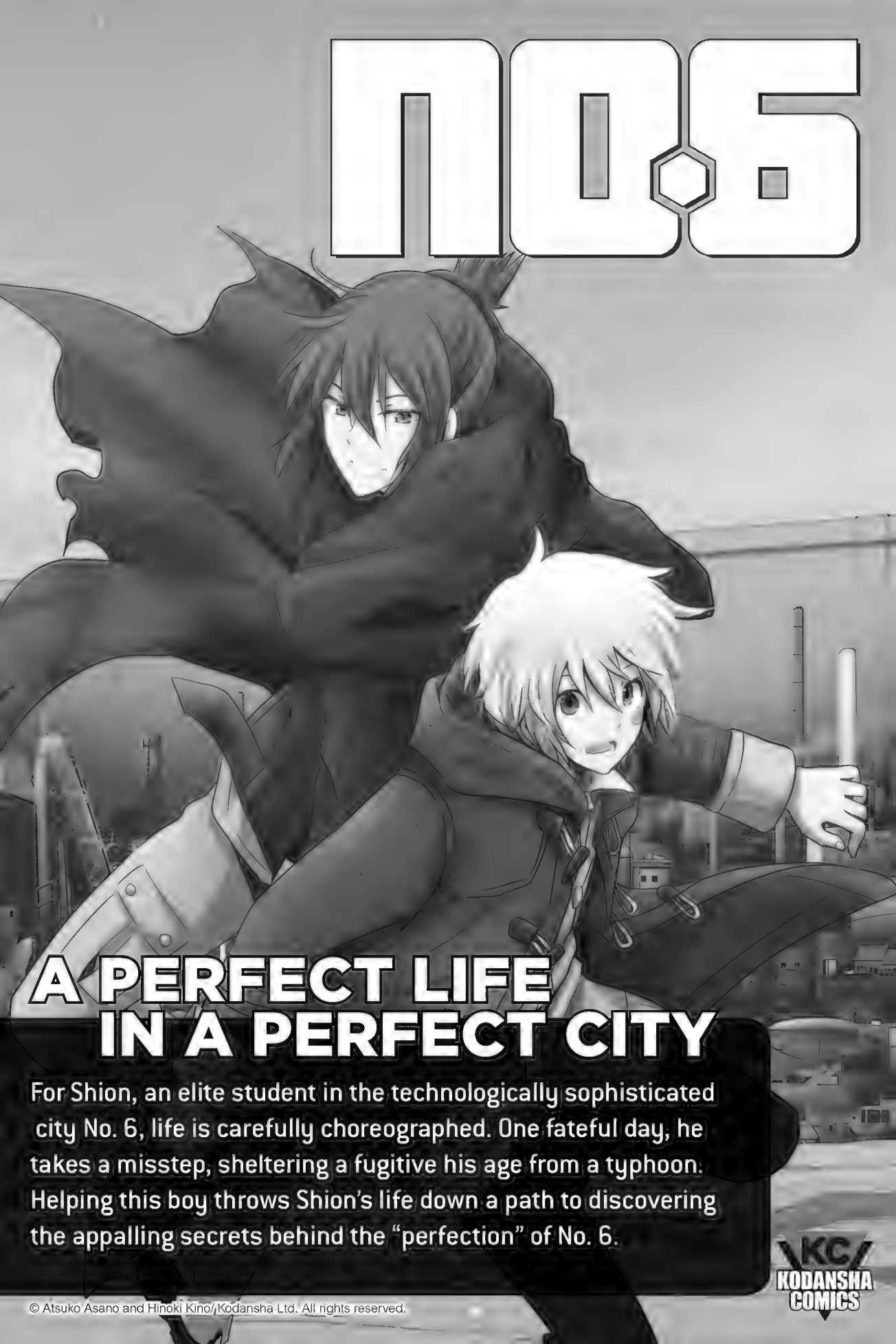
Translation Notes

Huanan Province, page 11
Huanan means "South China," and is a generally accepted name for the general region. However, there is no "Huanan Province" in modern-day China.

Tengu, page 57
A long-nosed mythological creature that is said to live in the mountains. Tengu are depicted as either long-nosed or crow-headed men and often described as "hermits." Tengu are very haughty and shun human contact except to show their superiority, so much so that in Japanese, calling another person a tengu is to call them arrogant and self-obsessed.

Sanzu, page 215
The mythological river that the souls of the dead must cross, according to Japanese Buddhism. It functions much in the same way that the River Styx does in the West. Coins are typically placed in coffins to provide the dead with fare to cross the river.

NO.6



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For Shion, an elite student in the technologically sophisticated city No. 6, life is carefully choreographed. One fateful day, he takes a misstep, sheltering a fugitive his age from a typhoon. Helping this boy throws Shion's life down a path to discovering the appalling secrets behind the "perfection" of No. 6.

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—A Case Suitable for Treatment

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MARDOCK SCRAMBLE

マルドゥック・スクランブル

Created by Tow Ubukata

Manga by Yoshitoki Oima

Ages: 16+

Rune Balot was a lost girl with nothing to live for. A man named Shell took her in and cared for her...until he tried to murder her. Standing at the precipice of death Rune is saved by Dr. Easter, a private investigator, who uses an experimental procedure known as "Mardock Scramble 09." The procedure grants Balot extraordinary abilities. Now, Rune must decide whether to use her new powers to help Dr. Easter bring Shell to justice, or if she even has the will to keep living a life that's been broken so badly.

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Ghost in the Shell Standalone Complex 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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ISBN: 9781682334560

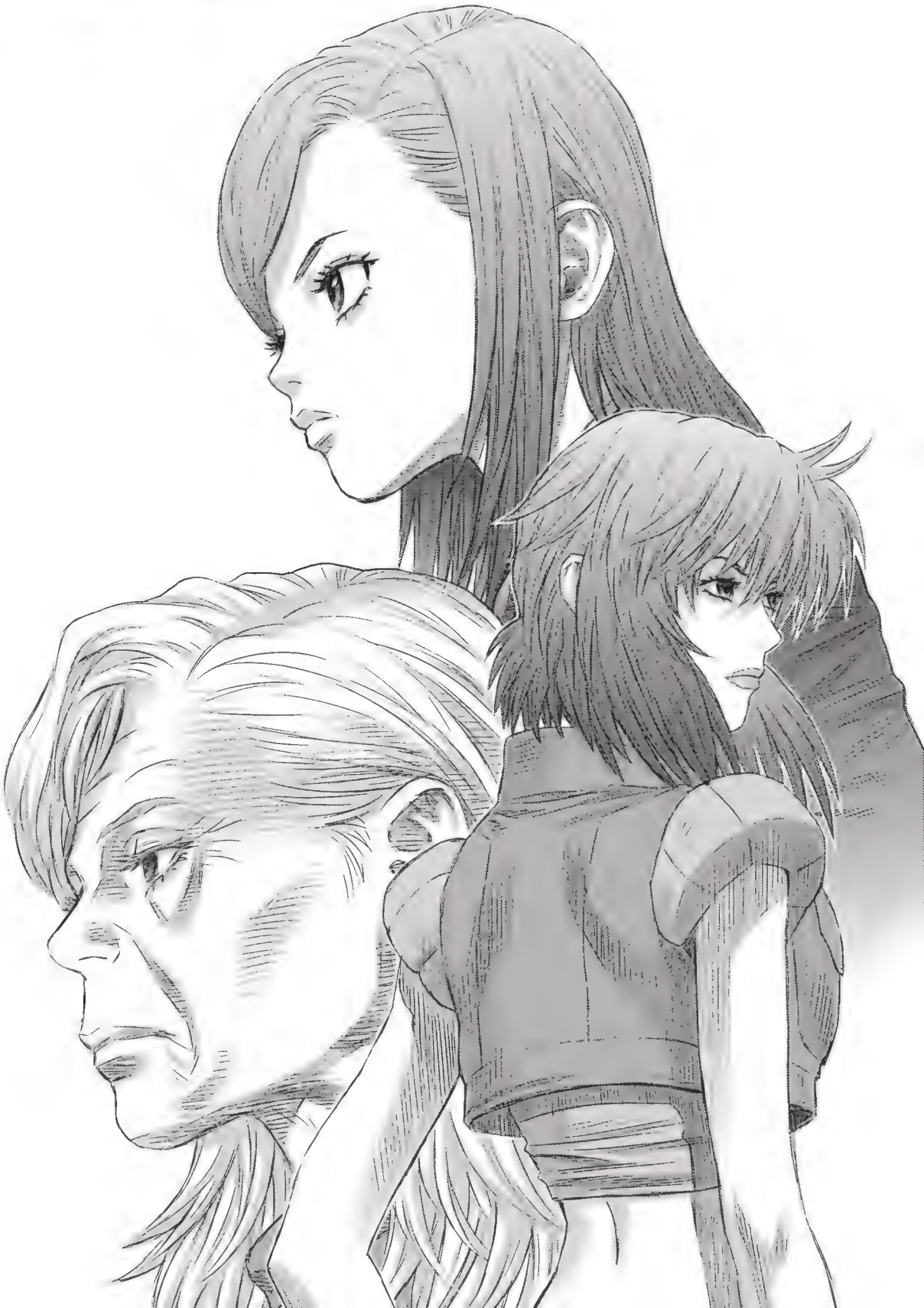
Digital Edition: 1.0.0

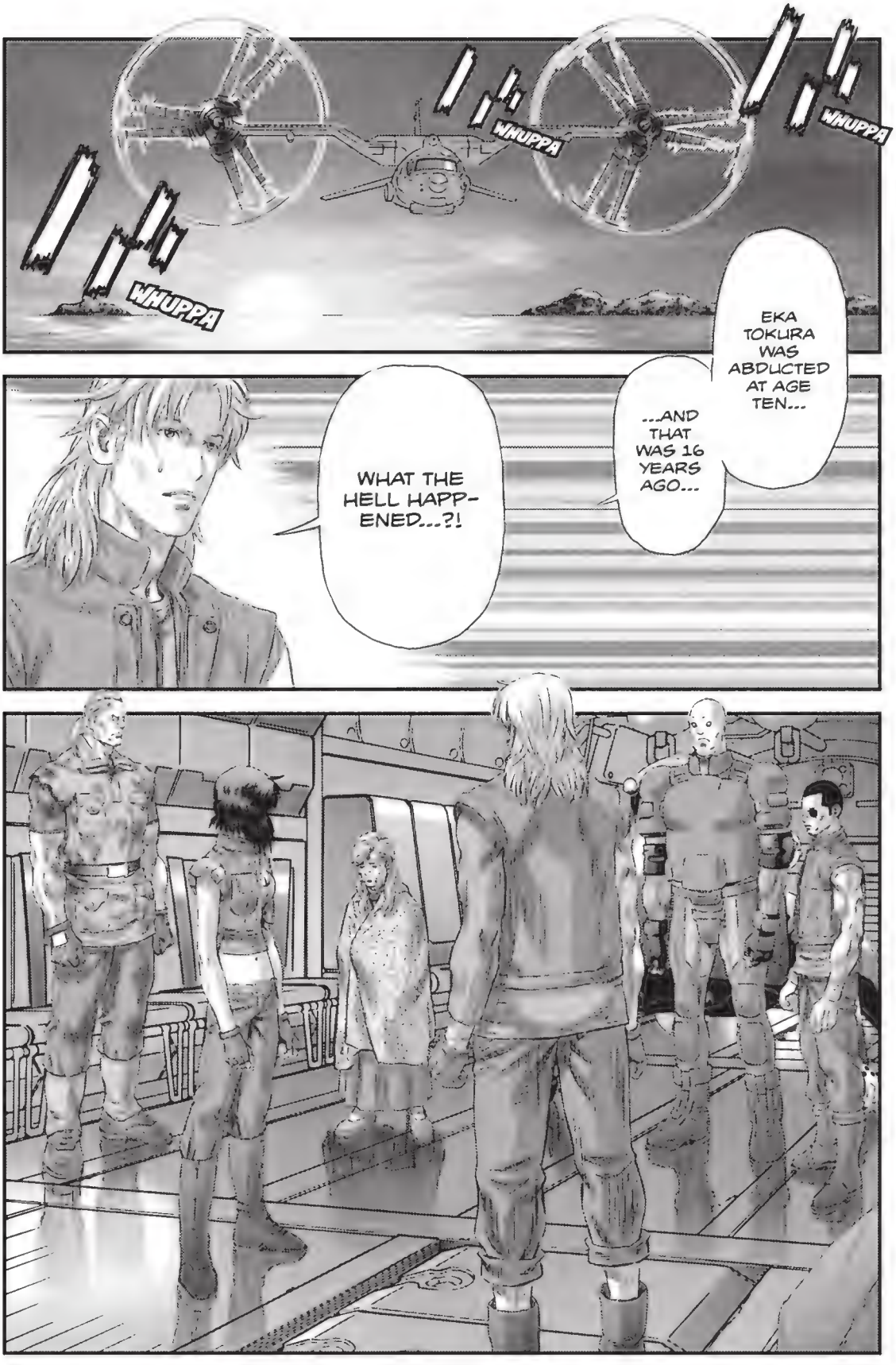
Translator: Stephen Paul
Lettering: Paige Pumphrey

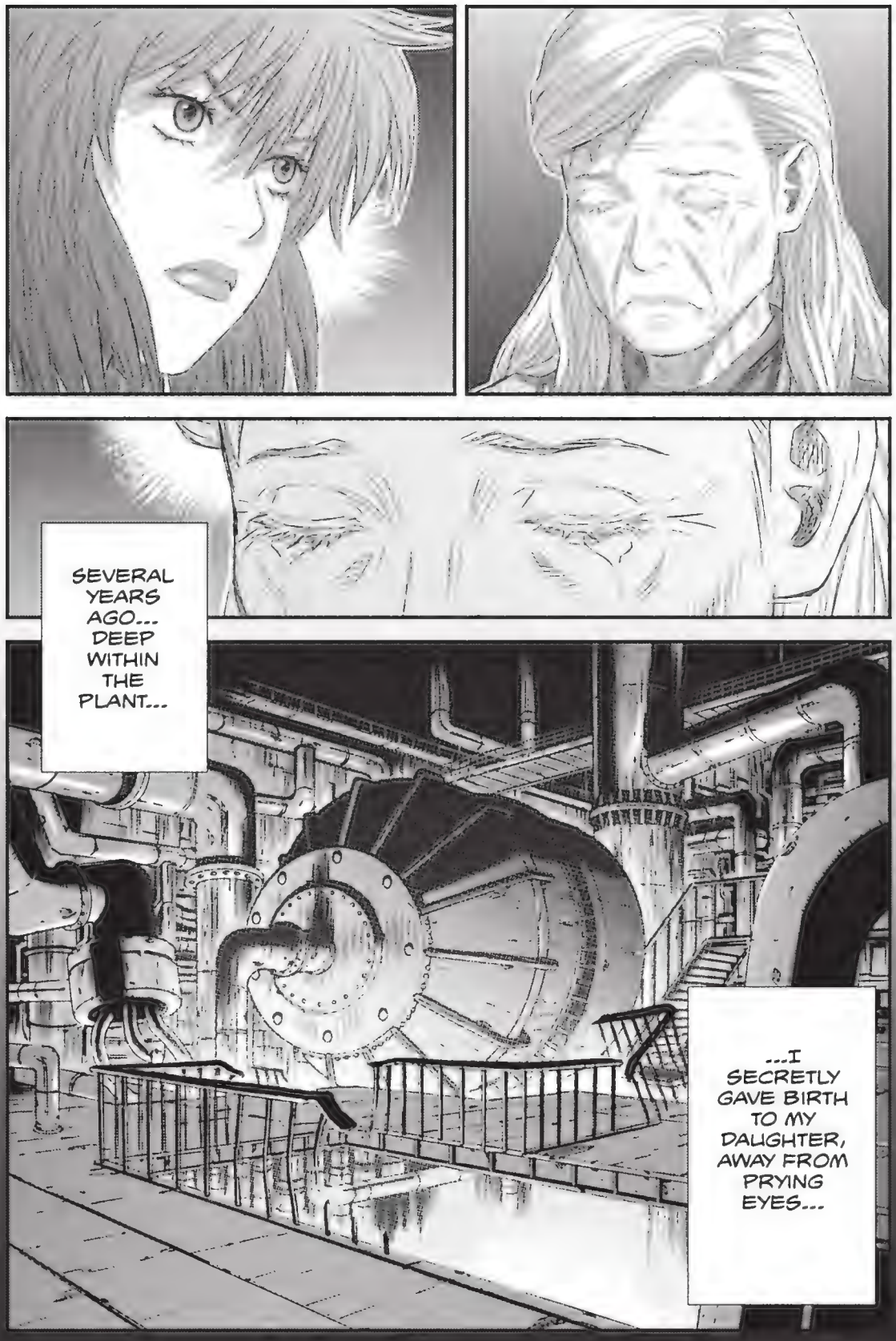
Stop

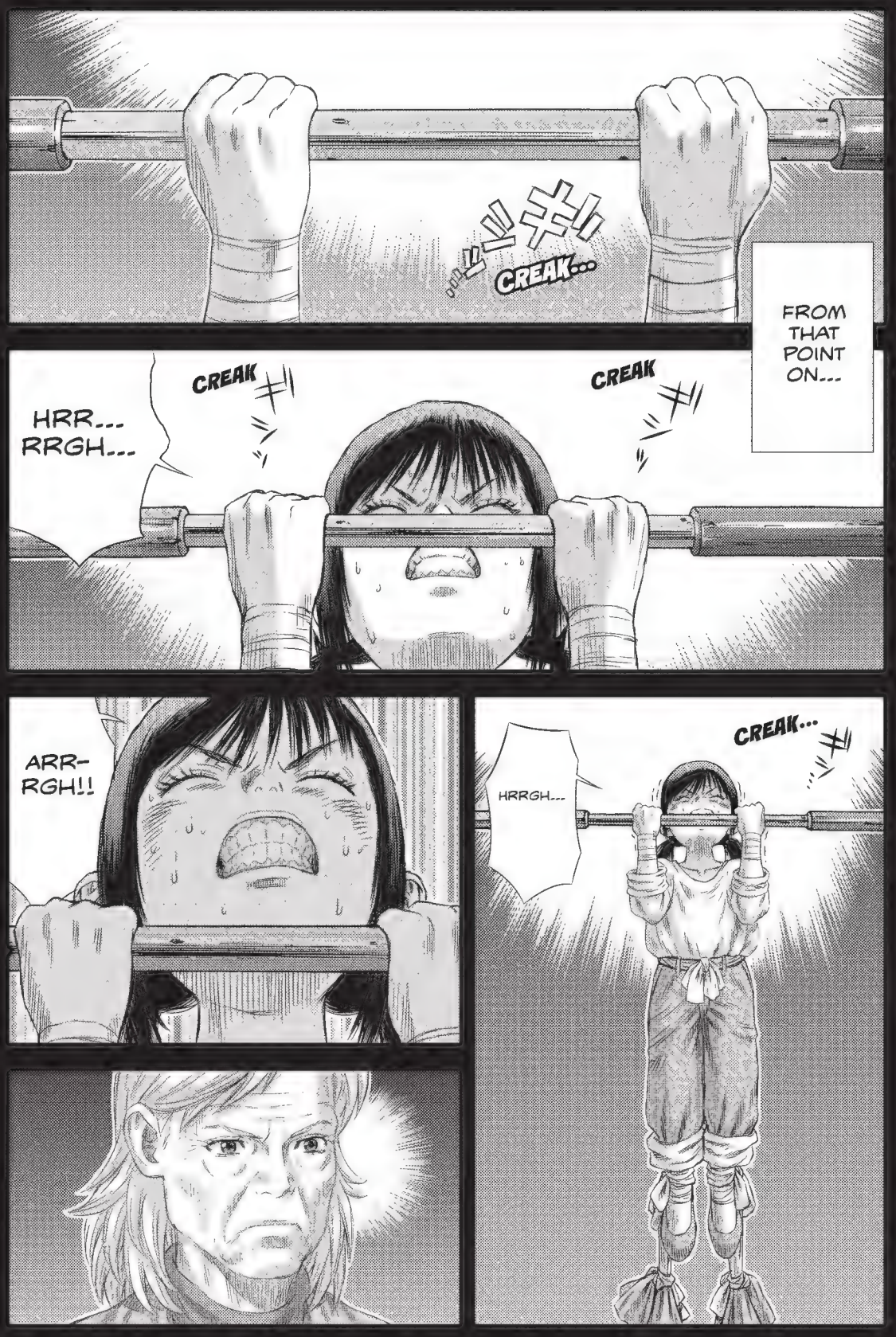
Japanese manga is written and drawn from right to left, which is the opposite of the way American graphic novels are composed. To preserve the original orientation of the art, and maintain the proper storytelling flow, this book has retained the right to left structure. Please go to what would normally be the last page and begin reading, right to left, top to bottom.

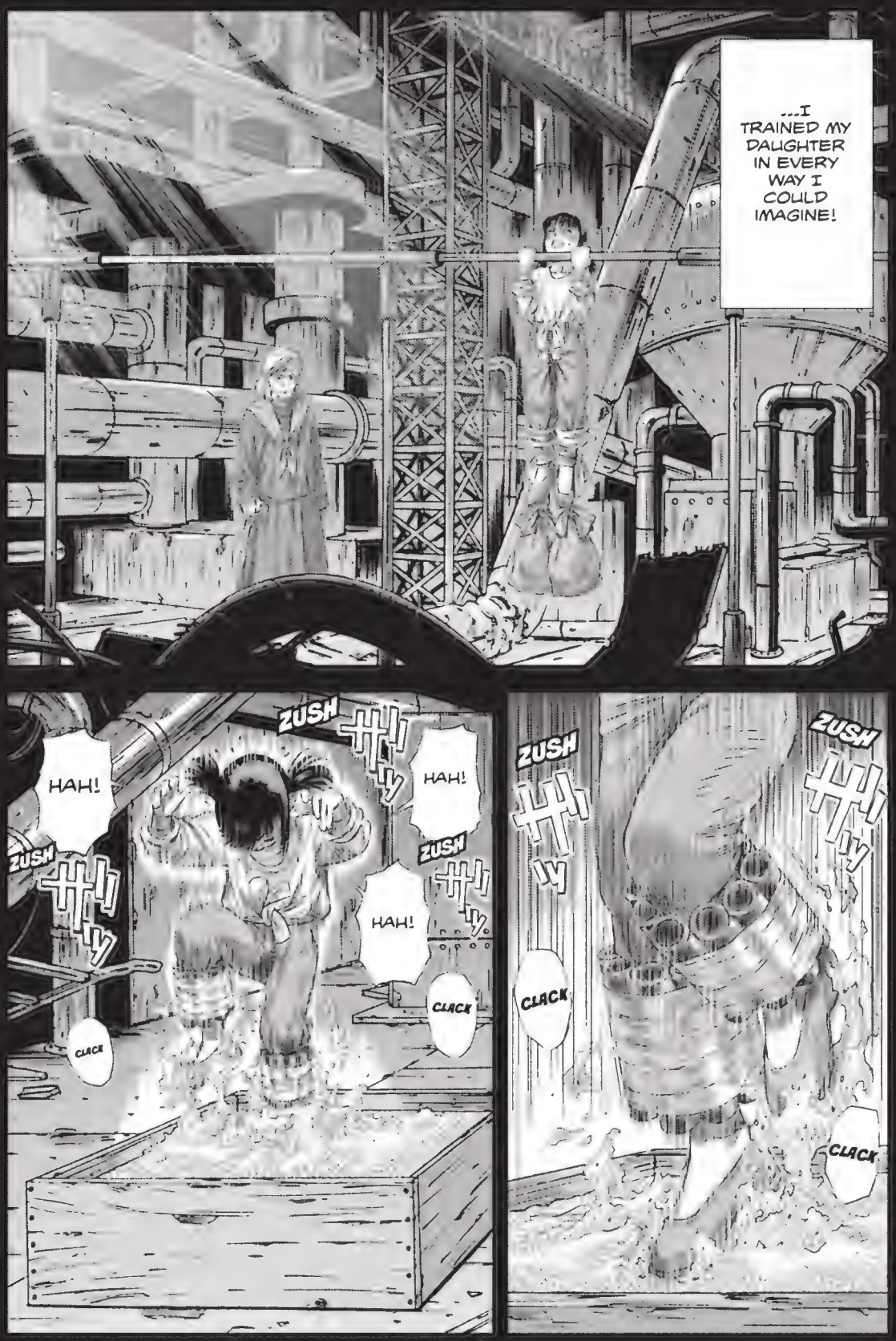
#042: Atrocious Memories




WHUPPA
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
EKA TOKURA WAS ABDUCTED AT AGE TEN...
...AND THAT WAS 16 YEARS AGO...
WHAT THE HELL HAPP-ENED...?!


SEVERAL YEARS AGO... DEEP WITHIN THE PLANT...
...I SECRETLY GAVE BIRTH TO MY DAUGHTER, AWAY FROM PRYING EYES...

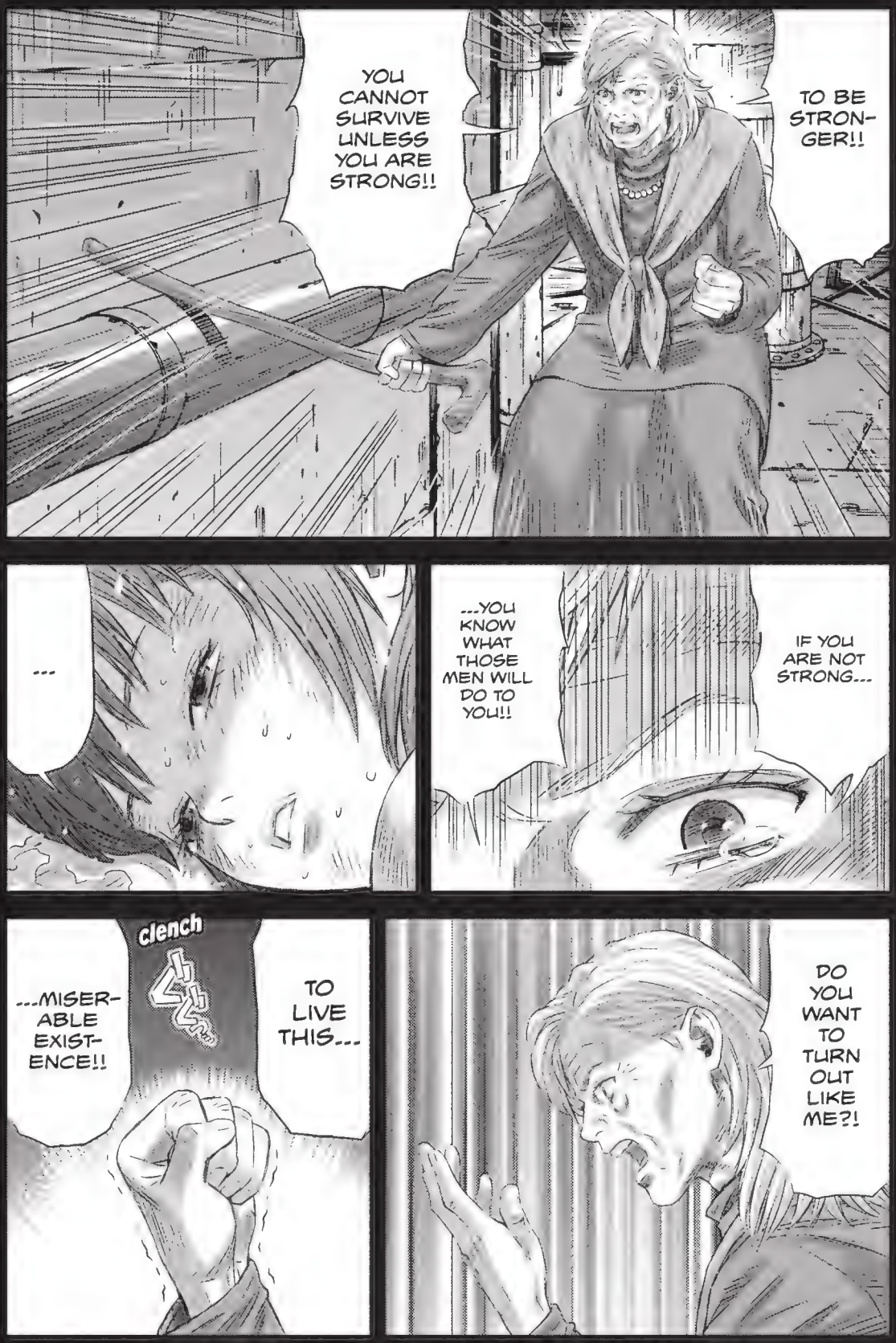

ミキ
CREAK...
FROM THAT POINT ON...
CREAK
CREAK
HRR... RRGH...
ARR- RGH!!
CREAK...
HRRGH...


...I TRAINED MY DAUGHTER IN EVERY WAY I COULD IMAGINE!
ZUSH
HAH!
ZUSH
HAH!
ZUSH
HAH!
CLACK
CLACK
ZUSH
ZUSH
CLACK
CLACK

MMF
HUFF!
HUFF!
MMF
HUFF!
MMF!
MMF!
FORTUN-
ATELY, MY
DAUGHTER
WAS
GIFTED...
...WITH
EXCELLENT
ATHLETIC
ABILITY...
...THOUGH
I DO NOT
KNOW
WHOSE
GENES
THOSE
ARE.

splash!
GET BACK UP AND CONTINUE YOUR TRAINING!!
WHO SAID YOU COULD TAKE A BREAK?! ON YOUR FEET!!

...
WHY...?
WHY DO I HAVE...TO DO THESE THINGS...?
...
CLANK!
SMACK!


YOU CANNOT SURVIVE UNLESS YOU ARE STRONG!!
TO BE STRONGER!!

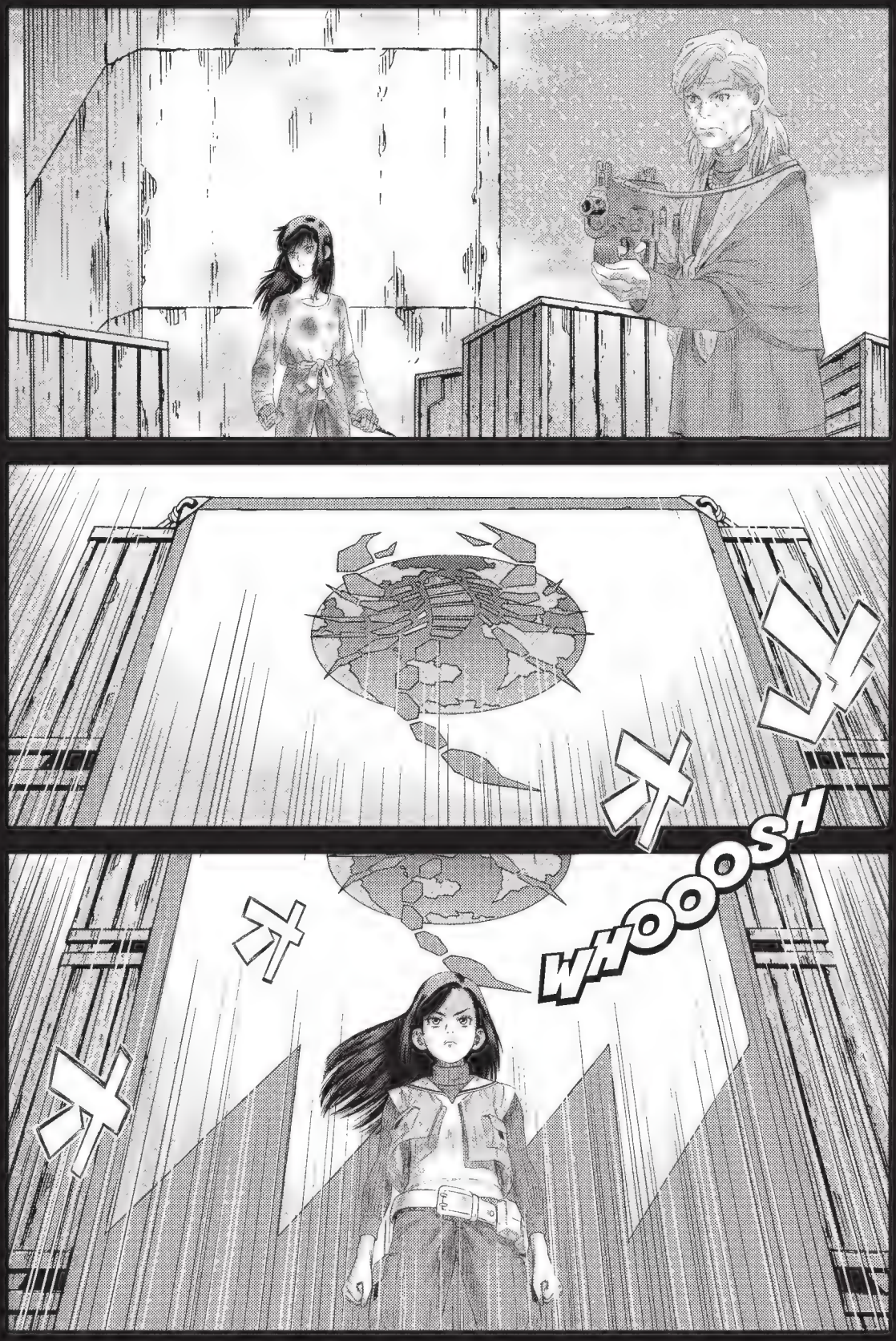
...YOU KNOW WHAT THOSE MEN WILL DO TO YOU!!
IF YOU ARE NOT STRONG...
clench
...MISERABLE EXISTENCE!!
TO LIVE THIS...
DO YOU WANT TO TURN OUT LIKE ME?!

...HAD DONE TO ME...
I TOLD HER THE ENTIRE TRUTH OF WHAT THE NEW WORLD BRIGADE...
AND WHILE I DON'T KNOW IF SHE ACTUALLY UNDERSTOOD ME...

SWISH
UMM
THUD
THUD!
SHK
SHK
SHK
THMP
BOOSH!!

IN TIME...

...MY DAUGHTER BECAME THE STRONGEST WARRIOR OF THEM ALL...


メ
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WHOOOOSH
メ
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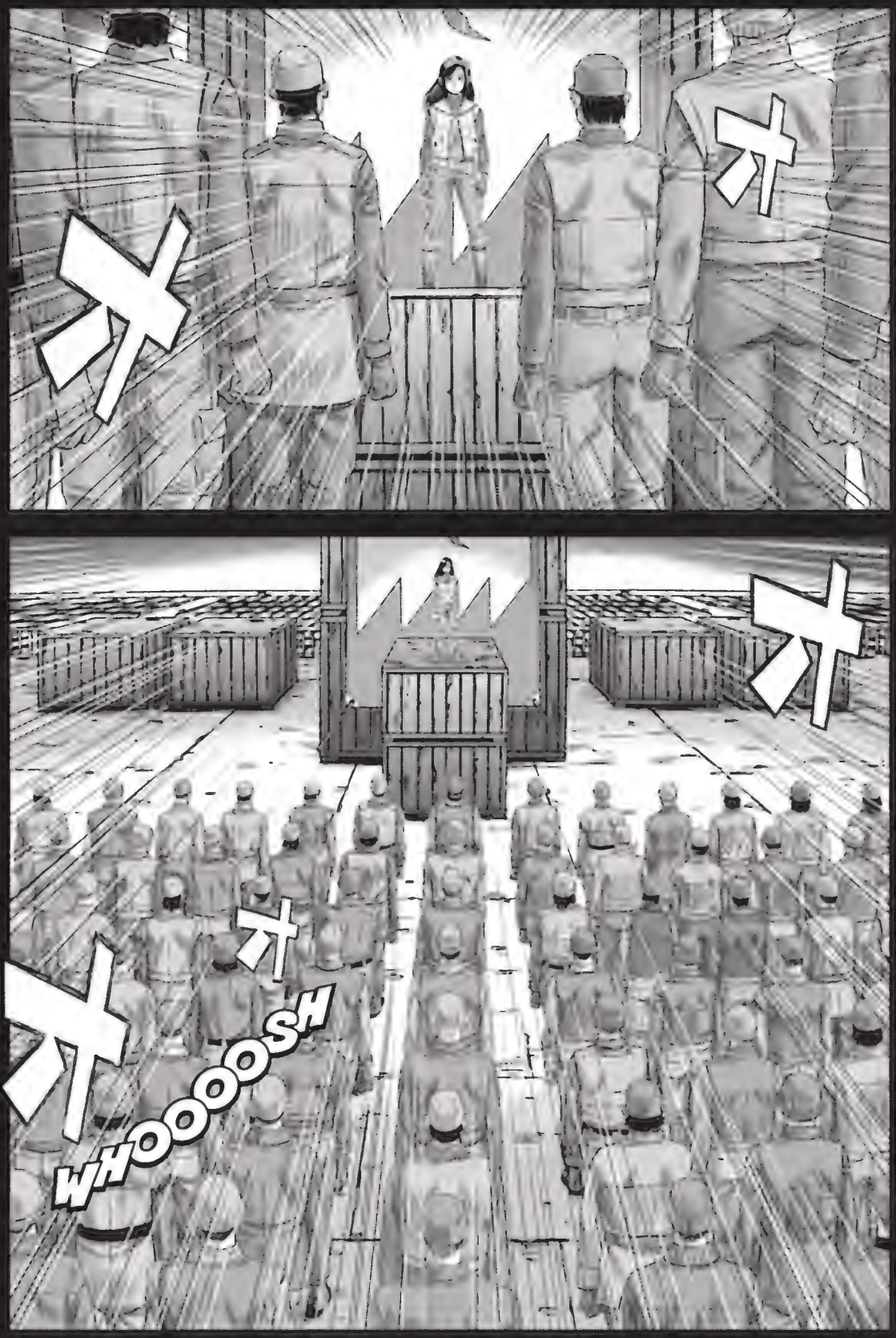
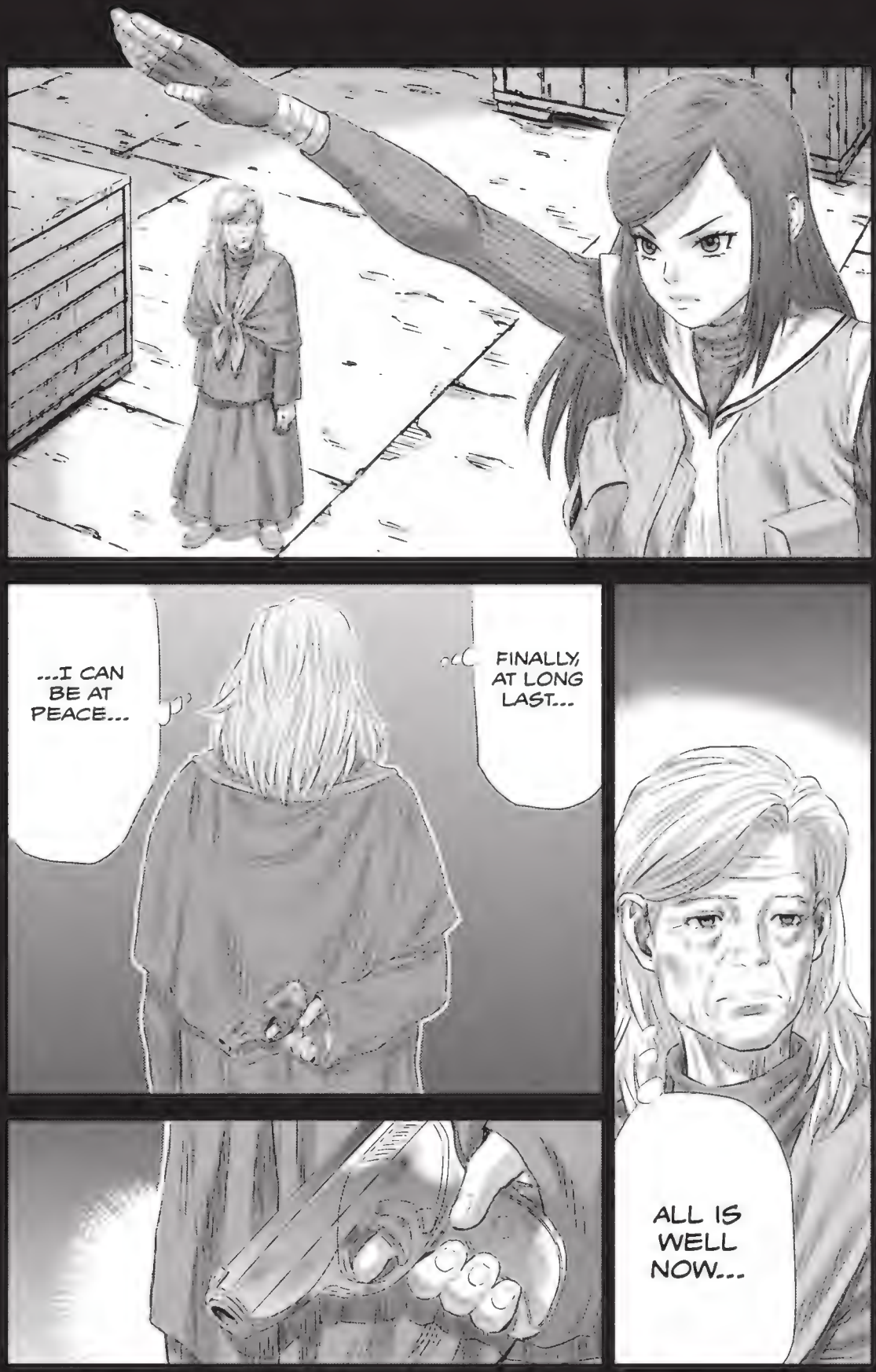
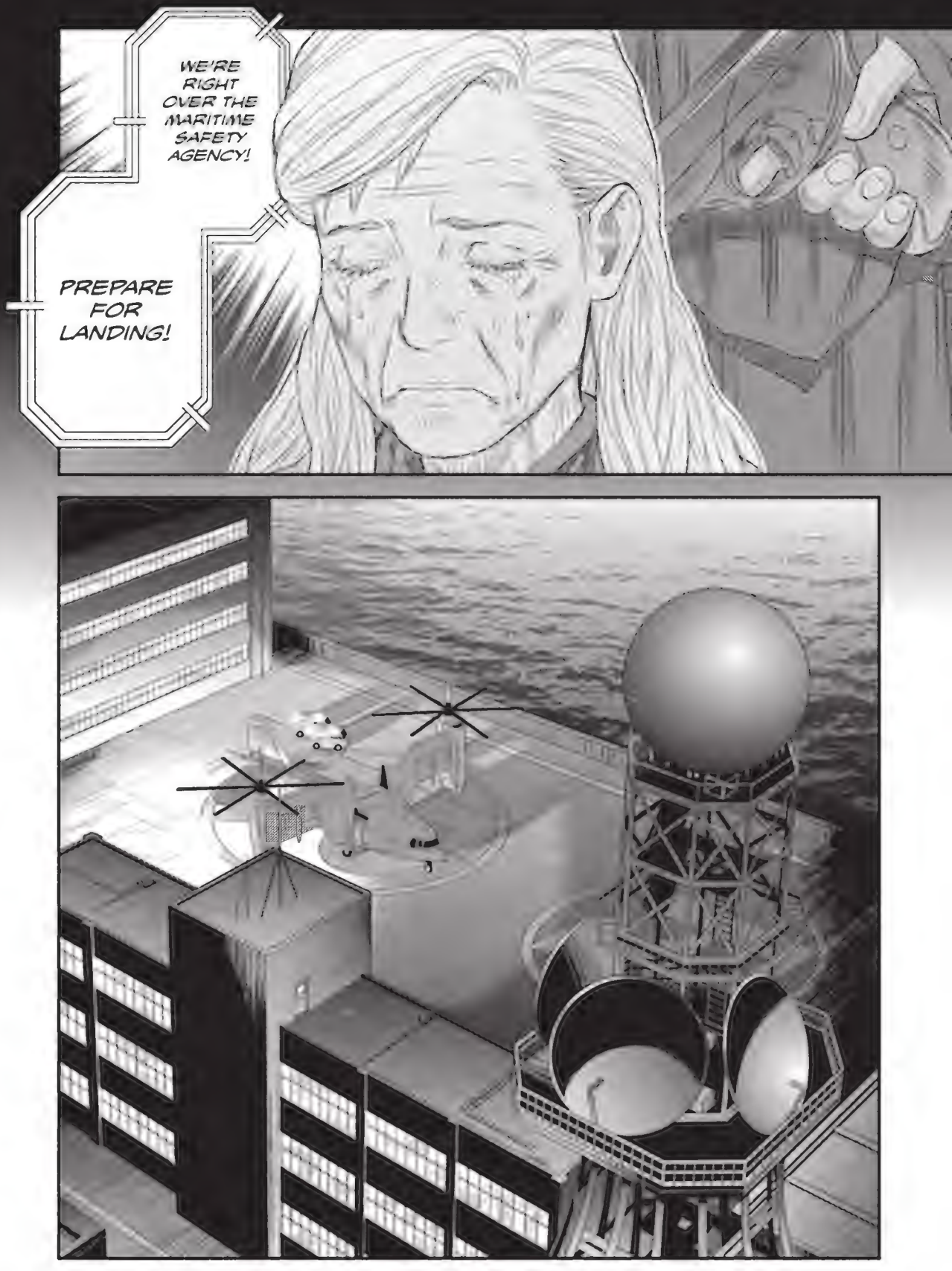
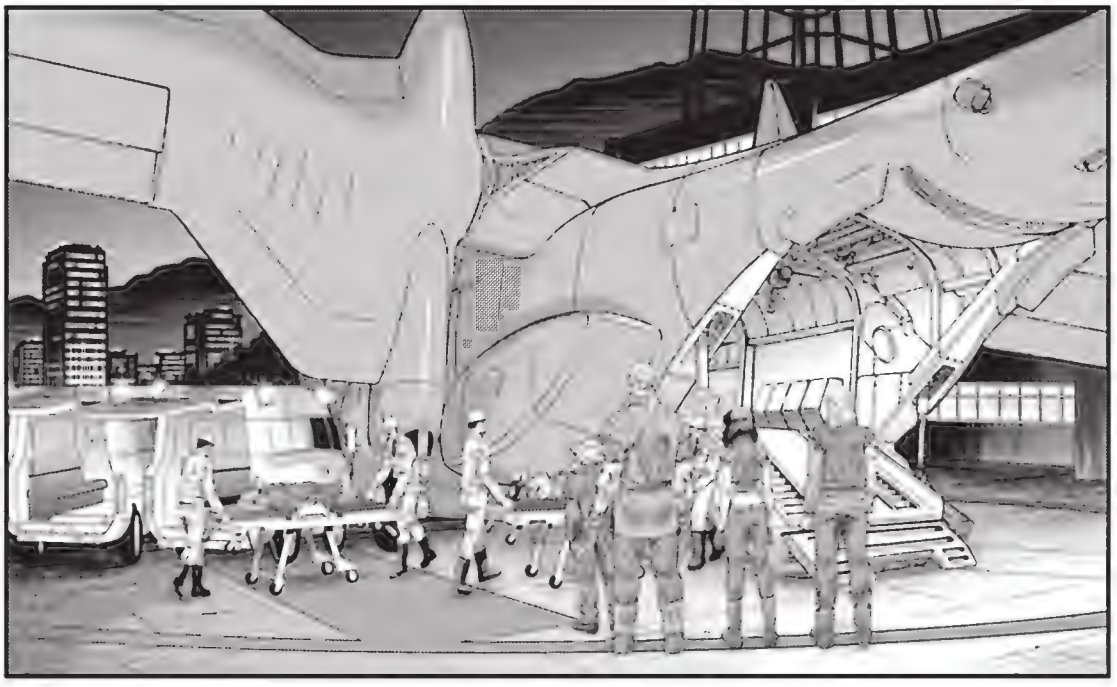
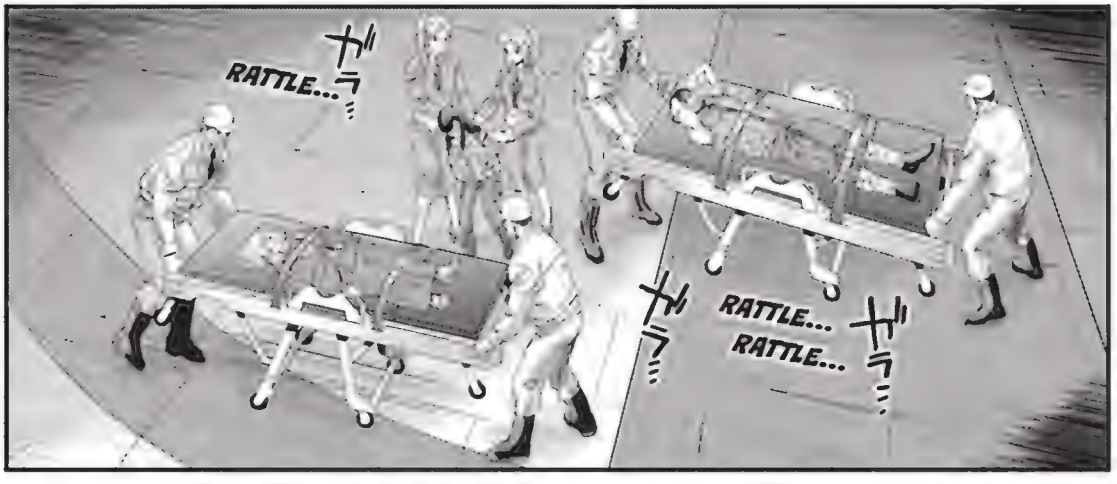

WHOOOOOSH

SHWAP!
SHWAP!


FINALLY, AT LONG LAST...
...I CAN BE AT PEACE...
ALL IS WELL NOW...

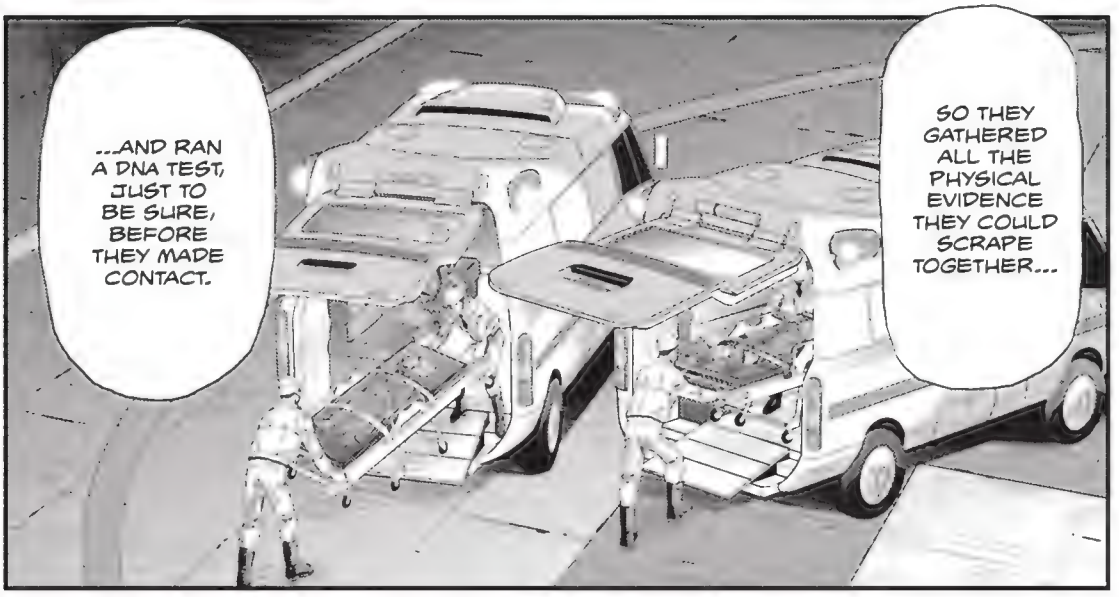

WE'RE RIGHT OVER THE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY!
PREPARE FOR LANDING!




RATTLE...
RATTLE...
RATTLE...

RGH...
AAHH...

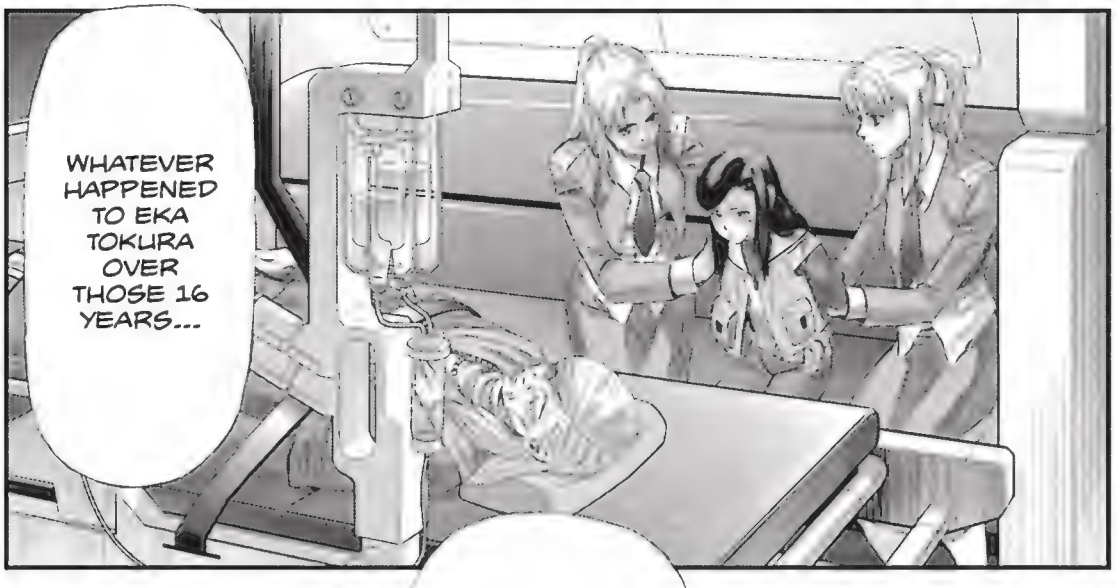
IN THE END, EKA TOKURA DIDN'T TELL US THE DETAILS OF WHAT SHE'D BEEN THROUGH...
HAVE WE UNCOVERED THE TRUTH YET?
WELL, WHAT'S THE STORY?
BUT I CAN GUESS...
...THAT THE MEDIA'S GOING TO HAVE A FIELD DAY WITH HER...
JUST LIKE THE MAJOR, THE SST GUYS FIGURED OUT...
...THAT IT WASN'T THE GIRL, BUT THE OLD LADY--THE MOTHER--WHO WAS EKA TOKURA...
I DON'T DOUBT IT...


...AND RAN A DNA TEST, JUST TO BE SURE, BEFORE THEY MADE CONTACT.
SO THEY GATHERED ALL THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE THEY COULD SCRAPE TOGETHER...

AND THEY JACKED INTO HER BRAIN...

RATTLE
GET RID OF THEM...
PLEASE...
I CAN'T DO IT ON MY OWN ANYMORE...
RATTLE

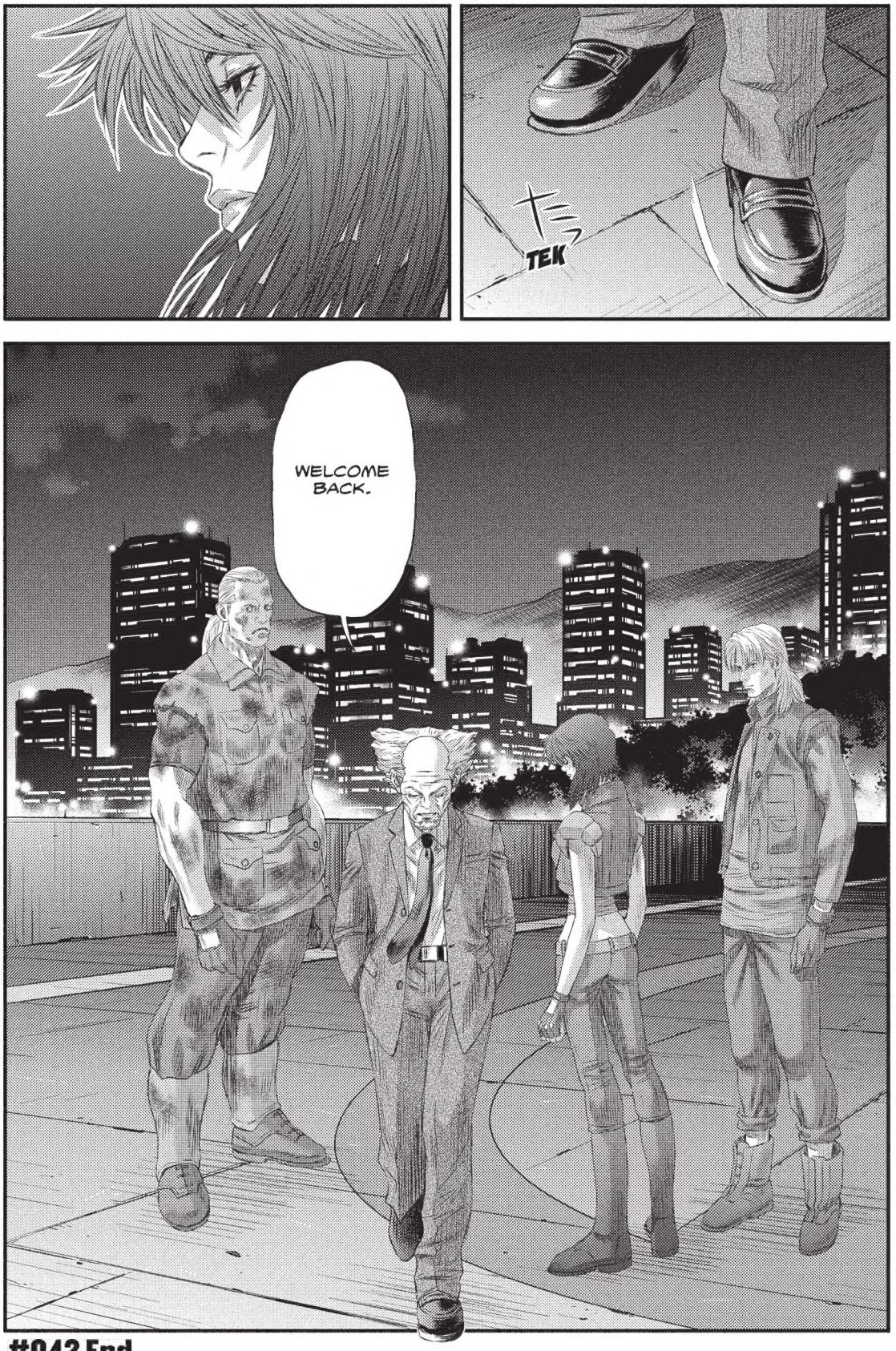
"GET RID OF THEM"...
AT FIRST, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HE WAS TALKIN' ABOUT...
BUT NOW I WONDER IF HE MEANT..."GET RID OF THESE MEMORIES."


WHATEVER HAPPENED TO EKA TOKURA OVER THOSE 16 YEARS...

...WAS AWFUL ENOUGH TO MAKE A 26-YEAR-OLD WOMAN LOOK LIKE AN OLD GRANDMA...

BASED ON WHAT I SAW ON HER FACE BACK IN THE TILTROTOR, I THINK I CAN IMAGINE IT...
...BUT I SURE AS HELL DON'T WANNA DWELL ON IT...
WEEOOO
DO YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO FIND OUT?
YOU COULD JACK INTO HER...

I AGREE WITH YOU...
...I THINK I'D RATHER NOT.
...BUT... YOU'RE RIGHT...
WE'VE SAFELY RECOVERED EKA TOKURA AND THE SURVIVING MSA AGENT...
THAT'S WHERE OUR MISSION ENDS.



#042 End

Episode 5: Not Equal - End